

Deputy Sam Mézec, Chair Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel States Greffe Morier House St Helier JE1 1DD

By email

07th July 2023

Dear Chair

S.R.20-2022 - Recommendation 18 - Exclusion of Speculative Savings

Thank you for your recent letter, in which you formally request that future Government Plans refrain from including speculative savings in accordance with the recommendation made by the Fiscal Policy Panel. Whilst the Government Plan is agreed by the whole Council of Ministers, I can confirm that I do not support the financial position being underpinned by speculative savings, and would argue that any future Government Plan avoids this.

However, for absolute clarity, I would be happy to include both specific savings, and more general savings at a level that is clearly deliverable (e.g. the £10 million included in the Government Plan 2023). I do not consider these to be speculative, but acknowledge that opinions on this may differ. If the Panel disagrees with the judgement of the Council of Ministers and feel savings in the plan are indeed speculative then the best course of action would appear to be for the Panel to lodge an amendment to the plan so that the Assembly can decide.

Yours sincerely

Deputy Ian Gorst

Minister for Treasury and Resources

D +44 (0)1534 440548

E i.gorst@gov.je

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