

Deputy Helen Miles  
Chair, Corporate Services Panel  
**BY EMAIL**

4 July 2024

*Dear Helen,*

### **Update on Preparation of the Government Plan**

I thought it would be helpful to update the Panel on preparations for the debate of the Government Plan and other related documents.

Currently we envision lodging the Government Plan in late July for debate in November. We expect to have a version ready for Scrutiny shortly before lodging, with hardcopy versions being printed and circulated to States Members, as well as a copy for each Panel, shortly afterwards. We expect the annexes to be available several weeks after that. The Government Plan will provide the Panels with a breakdown by department and head of expenditure, which we hope will aid Panels with their reviews; it will also contain the usual detail in respect of revenue growth and capital expenditure on new and existing projects.

The departments' Business Plans, alongside the Government Plan and the Common Strategic Policy, will replace Delivery Plans and the Ministerial Plans. Business Plans will be produced by each department and published on gov.je, they will all include key objectives and service performance measures, with respective individual Chief Officers, in consultation with their Ministers, determining what other information should be included for their department.

For 2024, we expect these to be available in the coming weeks. In the new year - following the conclusion of the debates on the Government Plan - Chief Officers will present updated Business Plans to reflect the version of the Government Plan agreed by the States Assembly. If Panels would like more information on Ministers' respective plans for their portfolio, I would recommend contacting Ministers individually in the usual way.

A youth friendly version of the Government Plan will be made available shortly after lodging and will be shared with Schools and Schools Networks; we will also be asking the States Greffe to share a copy with the Jersey Youth Parliament. For avoidance of doubt, we do not intend to produce youth friendly versions of department's Business Plans. If needs be, we will publish updated youth friendly versions of the adopted Government Plan and, as is now practice, we will prepare and publish the Government Plan as was adopted.

Once the Government Plan is lodged, Ministers, Assistant Ministers and their officials will be available to begin meeting with the Panels, and I would urge panel officers and their respective Scrutiny Liaison Officers to begin liaising on dates for hearings and outlining what additional information will be required to assist with reviews.

Finally, and as we have discussed previously, while scrutinising previous Government Plans myself, it has become clear that the name Government Plan does not clearly represent the actual nature of the document. Therefore, I have tasked officers with exploring what changes

Chief Minister



would be needed to legislation to enable changing its name from Government Plan to the 'Annual Budget and Financial Forecasts' or something similar. Any changes will of course require agreement of the Assembly and I will ensure members are kept informed.

I trust the above will be of use to Scrutiny and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

*With kind regards,*

*Lyndon*

**Deputy Lyndon Farnham**

**Chief Minister**