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By email

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024

Dear Chair,

### **Legislative Timeline for Public Entertainment Regulations**

Thank you for your letter of 16th April in which you set out the Panel's views regarding the forthcoming Unlawful Public Entertainments (Jersey) Regulations (the Regulations).

As you may be aware responsibility for the Regulations has historically fallen to the Minister for Justice and Home Affairs. Following discussions with the former Minister in early 2023, I agreed to take on responsibility for the Regulations and the development of a new law within the Sustainable Economic Development portfolio. It is intended that this will allow a new events and public entertainment law to be placed within a broader events framework which will include not only the regulatory regime for events but also a forward-looking plan of events. This will provide a vibrant and year-round events calendar, enriching our community and supporting our hospitality sector.

I appreciate the Panel's eagerness to see a new events and public entertainment law introduced as soon as possible and am acutely aware of the unnecessarily burdensome position many events organisers find themselves in, under the current Regulations.

This notwithstanding I do not accept that eighteen months would provide sufficient time to develop an entirely new piece of primary legislation (along with fixed time for lodging, consultation periods and Royal Assent). This legislation will not simply need to replace the current Regulations but also overlapping arrangements within the Road Works and Events Law, and both sit alongside special arrangements for public place in the Licensing Law and in the various Regulations for the Policing of Beaches, Parks and Roads<sup>1</sup>. Unpicking these arrangements will require significant demands on law drafting officer time and close engagement with a number of stakeholders.

Furthermore, it is likely that an events and public entertainment law will require secondary legislation in the form of Regulations to set out the arrangements for the licensing regime. These will also need to be in place before the expiration of the Unlawful Public Entertainments Regulations but will necessarily have to follow the third reading of the primary legislation.

The Panel will be aware that we have recently undertaken a workshop with stakeholders within and outside of Government, including a number of events organisers to not only inform the work on the forthcoming events and public entertainment law but also to identify 'quick wins' where processes can be improved under the current Regulations. What also emerged from this workshop was the

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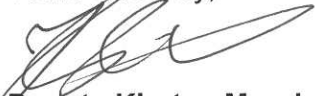
<sup>1</sup> Links to this legislation - [Licensing \(Jersey\) Law 1974](#)  
[Policing of Beaches \(Jersey\) Regulations 1959](#)  
[Policing of Roads \(Jersey\) Regulations 1959](#)  
[Policing of Parks \(Jersey\) Regulations 2005](#)  
[Road Works and Events \(Jersey\) Law 2016](#)

scale of work required to develop a full-events licensing regime, balancing the competing needs of organisers, parishes, businesses, the emergency services and others to ensure a safe and vibrant environment for public events.

I therefore consider three years an appropriate timeframe to develop the necessary legislation (likely including secondary legislation) and Events Framework to replace the existing Regulations. I would have serious concerns that a shorter length of time will necessitate a return to the Assembly to ask for a further extension of the Regulations.

I hope the above information provides clarity to the areas you have raised.

Yours sincerely,



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Minister for Sustainable Economic Development

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