

Minister for
International Development



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Deputy Kirsten Morel
Chairman, Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Morier House
Halkett Place
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21 August 2019

Dear Deputy

Response to Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel re. Government Plan Review

I write in response to the requests outlined in your letter, of 16 August 2019, and to hopefully provide the information requested.

Request 1:

Please find attached to this letter:

1) Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA) Business Case for inclusion in the Government Plan 2020 – 2023

This is the full version of the business case submitted to and agreed by Ministers. It outlines the rationale behind reversing the decline in Jersey's overseas aid budget, and also details some of the key improvements which make JOA a trustworthy and effective recipient of additional public money.

2) Overseas Aid: Information for Ministers: Closing the Gap – Reversing the Decline in Jersey's Overseas Aid Commission

These bullets were prepared for Ministers to present the business case in summary form, and to supply additional information on the effectiveness and professionalism of Jersey Overseas Aid.

Request 2:

I am currently not undertaking any work and do not have involvement any of the projects in the list provided.

N.B. there is no Request 3. Please confirm.

Request 4:

I am directly involved in two of the actions identified in the list relating to this request:

1) Increase Jersey's overseas aid contributions

In relation to this action you will find the information needed to understand my involvement and the nature of this action in the documents mentioned in the response to Request 1.

2) Develop an action plan to build a stronger, more inclusive sense of Island Identity:

In relation to the second of these actions I offer a brief outline of the work undertaken thus far towards this plan and a few guiding principles for the initiation phase:

- In Q4 2018 It was agreed by the Chief Minister to establish a Policy Development Board for Island Identity who in turn would develop an action plan to build a stronger, more inclusive sense of Island identity.
- The Programme overseen by this Board will seek to provide common focal points for our growing and increasingly diverse population, and help the island project its unique culture and varied talents as part of a positive and coherent international personality.
- In July the Ministerial Support Unit appointed an Officer to the role of Island Identity Programme Manager and Private Secretary to the Minister for International Development. The Programme Manager will provide cross-departmental co-ordination and secretariat to the Board.
- The terms of reference for this Policy Development Board have been drafted and are awaiting amends from Departments, and subsequently will be presented for signoff by the Chief Minister.
- Timescales for this project: The Board will meet every 4-6 weeks, beginning in October 2019. It will produce an interim findings report by June 2020, and an action plan by October 2020. Minutes will be published.
- Membership will consist of a mixture of States Members and non-States Members who have a particular interest or stake in one or more areas of Jersey's national identity. Other relevant stakeholders will be invited to meetings on an *ad hoc* basis to discuss specific relevant topics.
The list of members will be published after the scoping and research work has been completed in October 2020 and before the first official meeting of the Board.

- The terms of reference for this Policy Development Board are currently being drafted. They can be provided to the panel when they have been signed off by the Chief Minister

In addition to my direct involvement in these two actions – whilst not officially designated as Lead Minister, I am nonetheless currently contributing strongly towards the key action:

Ensure that Jersey continues to engage effectively with relevant multilateral bodies.

My involvement includes engagement with the Commonwealth, the World Bank, and UN Agencies.

Request 5:

My officers and I are always happy to provide additional briefing in relation to my areas of responsibility. I note that our next Quarterly Hearing is on 18 October 2019. If required as suggested by the Scrutiny Clerk we could also be available to attend an additional Hearing on Tuesday 1 October 2019 at 2pm.

Yours sincerely,



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