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Deputy Sam Mézec Chair, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

BY EMAIL

Friday, 21 October 2022

Dear Chair

Thank you for your letter dated 14 October. I am pleased to reply to your information request.

In relation to the C&AG recommendation on publishing more information on revenue income and expenditure lines, I agree that more information in the public domain is important to aid ongoing transparency and accountability.

The Government Plan 2023-26 includes short descriptions of each of the revenue income lines that make up general revenue income. Revenue Expenditure Heads of Expenditure are approved by department, and the Annex to the Government Plan includes a departmental service analysis. More information about the roles and functions of each department will be included on the gov.je website to enhance accessibility, and to ensure that an up-to-date description is always available which can be used on an ongoing basis to ensure decision-making is robust and includes throughout the process the relevant Accountable Officers.

I would also be content to further consider the recommendations of the C&AG in this area, continuing to promote and expand the amount of information in the public domain in relation to government expenditure (budget and actual) under each Head of Expenditure.

In relation to legislative priorities, for the first time the Ministerial Plans provide the States Assembly, Scrutiny, and Islanders with a clear set of priorities for legislation in the coming year. The list of significant legislation that we intend to lodge in 2023 provides transparency and I hope that the Panel welcomes its introduction. In saying that, I sympathise with the Panel's desire for greater specificity on the timing of lodging, in order to plan your business for the year. Our current estimates are therefore provided below. I ask the Panel to note, as I'm sure you will appreciate, that the development of policy and legislation can take longer than first envisaged – it is only once the issues are examined in detail that policy officers, legal advisers and legislative drafters can provide a more accurate estimate.

At this point, the timings in relation to the legislation you reference are as follows:

 Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018 amendment – currently intended for lodging in Q3 2023

- New legislation to establish a Jersey Public Services Ombudsperson intended for lodging in Q3 2023
- Amendments to the States of Jersey Law 2005 intended for lodging in Q4 2023
- Amendments to the Control of Housing and Work Law intended for lodging in Q4 2023
- Amendments to the Employment of States of Jersey Employees (Jersey) Law 2005 intended for lodging in Q4 2023

I hope this information is helpful for the Panel.

Yours sincerely

**Deputy Kristina Moore Chief Minister**