

## States Greffe

Deputy Ian Gorst Minister for Treasury and Resources

## BY EMAIL

16th October 2023

Dear Minister,

## <u>Proposed Government Plan 2024-2027 (P.72/2023): Criminal Offences Confiscation</u> <u>Fund</u>

The Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel is reviewing the Proposed Government Plan 2024-2027 (the 'Proposition') that has been lodged as <u>P.72/2023</u> by the Government. The Panel has a number of queries about the Criminal Offences Confiscation Fund ('COCF'). We understand that this Fund is managed and controlled by the Minister for Treasury and Resources, and therefore hope that you will be able to assist with some related queries.

To provide further context to the below questions, I highlight that the States Assembly is being asked to approve the transfer of £777,000 from the COCF to the Consolidated Fund in 2024 (and reference paragraph (e) of the Proposition and 'Summary Table 3 - Transfers of monies between States Funds' in this regard). The Panel has noted that the report accompanying the Proposition provides income statement details for 'Other Special Funds' as a group, but there is no specific breakdown in respect of the COCF.

We should be grateful if you would consider and respond to the following:

- 1. Please could you provide income statement details for the COCF, to include:
  - a. the estimated opening balance for 2024;
  - b. the estimated financial transfers in / out;
  - c. the estimated closing balance for 2024.
- 2. As per Article 24 of the <u>Proceeds of Crime (Jersey) Law 1999</u>, we understand that monies in the COCF may be applied by the Minister for Treasury and Resources for specific purposes. Please could you confirm what oversight, if any, you retain over the use of the funds for the specific purposes once they have been transferred to the Consolidated Fund?
  - a. What governance is in place to ensure that money originating from the COCF is attributed directly to assigned projects, as per the Government Plan and approved business cases?
- 3. Please could you advise how the cashflow out of the COCF is managed and authorised?
  - a. Please could you provide a list of the projects that have been funded through money from the COCF in the last five years?
    - i. Please could you indicate when funding payments for the projects named in the response to part (a) have been made.



- 4. Please could you advise whether the monies in the COCF are held by the States Treasury, or deposited in specific bank deposit accounts?
  - a. Please could you provide details about how, or if, the COCF money is ringfenced from other special funds?
  - b. What rate of interest does the COCF balance accrue?
  - c. Have you taken any advice about the long-term fund management of any monies held by the COCF?

The Panel looks forward to your formal response and would request this is received by **23**<sup>rd</sup> **October 2023**. Please direct any response or queries to the Panel through our Committee and Panel Officer, Katherine de Carteret by email at <a href="mailto:k.decarteret@gov.je">k.decarteret@gov.je</a> and Research and Project Officer, Ben Walker by email at <a href="mailto:b.walker2@gov.je">b.walker2@gov.je</a>.

Yours sincerely,

**Deputy Catherine Curtis** 

Chair, Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel