

Chief Minister

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Chairman
Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Panel
Scrutiny Office
States Greffe
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17 November 2020

Dear Chairman,

Please find answers below, to your letter of the 29 October and subsequent questions of 11 November. I trust this answers your queries, but if you do have any further questions, I would of course be happy to answer them.

Piquet House:

1. *We note from R.89/2020 that this pre-feasibility study has been deferred in full. The allocation for 2020 was £150,000. Can you clarify when it is anticipated these funds will be recovered/utilised and the project resumed?*

It is correct that funds have been deferred to 2021 as part of the Judicial Greffe response to Treasury's invitation to reduce expenditure where possible. It is anticipated that it will be utilised in 2021 subject to project support being allocated to this project.

2. *Additional funding of £150,000 is being sought in the 2021 Government Plan. Please could you advise specifically what this will cover and the rationale as to why further funding is required?*

There appears to be a little confusion here. The £150,000 being sought in 2021 is not additional funds but the deferred prefeasibility funding from 2020.

3. *Do you anticipate that further funding will be required on pre-feasibility work into 2022?*

No further funds are anticipated for this prefeasibility part of the project

Additional queries on Piquet House

- *£1,071,000 is being requested in 2021, please could you advise why funding for the capital programme is being requested prior to the outcome of the pre-feasibility study?*

There is an expectation that the prefeasibility study is unlikely to conclude that the project is unable to be undertaken given that it is anticipated to merely clarify the professional costs associated with the alterations to the building. This confidence is

bolstered by the fact that we have already received reports Axis Mason (architects who provides a feasibility study) and Southern Projects (quantity surveyors who provided a feasibility estimate). We therefore made a capital bid accordingly.

- ***Please could you provide a breakdown of what the £1,071,000 funding will cover?***

This sum represents the total expected alteration work costs to the physical building (not fit out costs), to turn Piquet House into a family court facility.

Conversion Courtroom 1 – Magistrates Court

4. *We note this capital programme has been deferred in full with no work due to be undertaken until 2021. Has the funding of £450,000 approved for this in the 2020 Government Plan been ring-fenced or diverted? If diverted, how and when do you expect this will be recovered?*

As part of “Halt, Defer, Reduce” programme initiated during 2020 to help provide funding for the unexpected costs of dealing with the pandemic, we were advised that very little work would be undertaken in 2020. The request sum of £440,000 is included in Government Plan 2021-2024.

5. *Additional funding of £440,000 is being sought in the 2021 Government Plan. Please could you advise what this will cover and the rationale as to why further funding is required?*

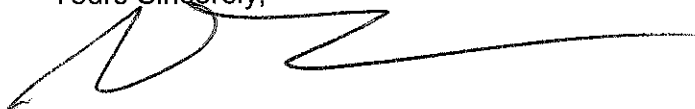
Again, this is not additional funding but rather the requested funds deferred from 2020 into 2021.

We can confirm that the capital sum is to be used both for the costs of the alterations to the building to facilitate the use by the Royal Court (circa £262k) and for the installation of the necessary technology and infrastructure (£178k)

6. *Please could you provide a breakdown of what the £440,000 is intended to cover?*

Please see above answer to 5.

Yours Sincerely,



Senator John Le Fondré

Chief Minister

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