



**THE STATES assembled on Thursday
11th December 2025, at 9.30 a.m. under
the Presidency of the Bailiff,
Robert James MacRae, Esquire.**

All members were present at roll call with the exception of –

Connétable Alan Simon Crowcroft of St. Helier – en défaut (défaut raised at 9.52 a.m.)
Connétable Deidre Wendy Mezbourian of St. Lawrence – ill
Connétable Richard Vibert of St. Peter – en défaut
Connétable Karen Shenton-Stone of St. Martin – ill
Deputy Philip Francis Cyril Ozouf of St. Saviour – suspended
Deputy Raluca Stefana Kovacs of St. Saviour – en défaut (défaut raised at 9.52 a.m.)
Deputy Karen Margaret Wilson of St. Clement – en défaut (défaut raised at 9.39 a.m.)

Prayers

Standing Order 55A – remote participation

THE STATES, with reference to their Act dated 14th September 2021, in which they had agreed that, notwithstanding Standing Order 55A(1), Members who did not wish to attend in the States Chamber might continue to take part in States meetings using Microsoft Teams (until the States had considered and voted upon a proposition to re-apply Standing Order 55A(1) or to repeal or vary the terms of the Standing Order), assembled in accordance with Standing Order 55A with Members able to participate remotely using Microsoft Teams. The following Members attended remotely, either for all or part of the meeting –

Deputy Louise Mary Catherine Doublet of St. Saviour
Deputy Ian Joseph Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter
Deputy Hilary Louise Jeune of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity
Deputy Raluca Stefana Kovacs of St. Saviour
Deputy Karen Margaret Wilson of St. Clement

Documents presented

Guidance of Standing Order 106: Declaration of Interests. R.175/2025.
Presented: 11th December 2025, *Privileges and Procedures Committee*.

Notification of lodged propositions

Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029 (P.70/2025): eleventh amendment (P.70/2025 Amd.(11)) – second amendment.	P.70/2025. Amd.(11).
Lodged: 11th December 2025, <i>Council of Ministers</i> .	Amd.(2).
Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029 (P.70/2025): thirty-sixth amendment.	P.70/2025.
Lodged: 11th December 2025, <i>Minister for Treasury and Resources</i> .	Amd.(36).
Draft Finance (2026 Budget) (Jersey) Law 202- (P.93/2025): second amendment.	P.93/2025.
Lodged: 11th December 2025, <i>Minister for Treasury and Resources</i> .	Amd.(2).

Withdrawal of lodged propositions

THE STATES noted that, in accordance with Standing Order 34(1), the proposer of the following proposition lodged “au Greffe” had informed the Greffier of the States that it had been withdrawn –

Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029 (P.70/2025): eleventh amendment	P.70/2025.
(P.70/2025 Amd.(11)) – amendment.	Amd.(11).
Overpayments of Social Security Contributions.	Amd.
Lodged: 1st December 2025, <i>Council of Ministers</i> .	

Arrangement of Public Business for the present meeting

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the Chief Minister, agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 80, to suspend Standing Order 32 in order that the amendment of the Council of Ministers (P.70/2025 Amd.(11)) to the proposition of the Council of Ministers entitled ‘Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029’ (P.70/2025) might be listed for consideration at the present meeting; and further agreed in accordance with Standing Order 26(7), to reduce the minimum lodging period in respect of the same amendment in order that it might be debated at the present meeting.

THE STATES noted that, in accordance with Standing Order 34(1), the Minister for Social Security had informed the Greffier of the States that the amendment of the Council of Ministers (P.70/2025 Amd.(11)Amd.) to the amendment of the Council of Ministers (P.70/2025 Amd.(11) to the proposition of the Council of Ministers entitled ‘Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029’ (P.70/2025) had been withdrawn.

THE STATES, adopting a proposition of the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 80, to suspend Standing Order 32 in order that his amendment (P.70/2025 Amd.(33).Amd.(2)) to the proposition of the Council of Ministers entitled ‘Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029’ might be listed for consideration at the present meeting; and further agreed in accordance with Standing Order 26(7), to reduce the minimum lodging period in respect of the same amendment in order that it might be debated at the present meeting.

THE STATES noted that, in accordance with Standing Order 34(1), Deputy Montfort Tadier of St. Brelade had informed the Greffier of the States that his amendment (P.70/2025 Amd.(33).Amd) to the proposition of the Council of Ministers entitled ‘Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029’ (P.70/2025) had been withdrawn.

Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029 P.70/2025

THE STATES, resuming consideration of the proposition of the Council of Ministers entitled ‘Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029’ (P.70/2025), as amended, commenced consideration of an amendment of Deputy Inna Gardiner of St. Helier North (P.70/2025 Amd.(26)), and rejected the amendment that –

in paragraph (b)(xii), after the words “in the Appendix to the accompanying report” there should be inserted the words –

“, except that on page 16 after “Figure 6: Common Strategic Policies” there should be inserted a new paragraph –

“Additional funding will be allocated to increase apprenticeship grants from the current rate of £1,852 per student to a maximum amount of £2,350 per student, to factor in inflation from the date at which the rate was set. The additional funding required for 2026 shall be allocated from the Better Business Support Package.””; and

in paragraph (b)(xii), after the words “in the Appendix to the accompanying report” there should be inserted the words –

“, except that on page 16 after “Figure 6: Common Strategic Policies” there should be inserted a new paragraph –

“During 2026, the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, in consultation with the Minister for Treasury and Resources and other relevant Ministers, shall develop proposals for an apprenticeship grants funding model to be managed using an Annually Managed Expenditure (AME) model rather than as part of general departmental budgets.””.

Members present voted as follows –

POUR: 9

Connétable of St. Saviour
Deputy L.M.C. Doublet
Deputy I. Gardiner
Deputy K.L. Moore
Deputy Sir P.M. Bailhache
Deputy D.J. Warr
Deputy J. Renouf
Deputy H.L. Jeune
Deputy L.K.F. Stephenson

CONTRE: 27

Connétable of St. Brelade
Connétable of St. Clement
Connétable of St. Ouen
Connétable of St. Mary
Deputy G.P. Southern
Deputy C.F. Labey
Deputy S.G. Luce
Deputy K.F. Morel
Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat
Deputy S.M. Ahier
Deputy R.J. Ward
Deputy C.S. Alves
Deputy I.J. Gorst
Deputy L.J. Farnham
Deputy S.Y. Mézec
Deputy T.A. Coles
Deputy B.B. de S.V.M. Porée
Deputy M.R. Scott
Deputy L.V. Feltham
Deputy R.E. Binet
Deputy M.E. Millar
Deputy A. Howell
Deputy T.J.A. Binet
Deputy M.R. Ferey
Deputy A.F. Curtis
Deputy B. Ward
Deputy M.B. Andrews

ABSTAINED: 5

Connétable of Grouville
Deputy M. Tadier
Deputy H.M. Miles
Deputy C.D. Curtis
Deputy R.S. Kovacs

THE STATES, resuming consideration of the proposition of the Council of Ministers, as amended commenced consideration of an amendment of Deputy David James Warr of St. Helier South (P.70/2025 Amd.(14)) and rejected an amendment of Deputy Catherine Dolores Curtis of St. Helier Central (P.70/2025 Amd.(14).Amd.) that, after the words “personal income tax”, there should be inserted the words “, to also include removal of tax relief for buy-to-let mortgages”.

Members present voted as follows –

POUR: 19

Connétable of St. Clement
Deputy G.P. Southern
Deputy M. Tadier

CONTRE: 21

Connétable of St. Helier
Connétable of St. Brelade
Connétable of Trinity

ABSTAINED: 2

Connétable of Grouville
Deputy I. Gardiner

Deputy L.M.C. Doublet	Connétable of St. Ouen
Deputy R.J. Ward	Connétable of St. Mary
Deputy C.S. Alves	Connétable of St. Saviour
Deputy S.Y. Mézec	Deputy S.G. Luce
Deputy Sir P.M. Bailhache	Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat
Deputy T.A. Coles	Deputy S.M. Ahier
Deputy B.B. de S.V.M. Porée	Deputy I.J. Gorst
Deputy D.J. Warr	Deputy L.J. Farnham
Deputy H.M. Miles	Deputy K.L. Moore
Deputy J. Renouf	Deputy M.R. Scott
Deputy C.D. Curtis	Deputy R.E. Binet
Deputy L.V. Feltham	Deputy M.E. Millar
Deputy H.L. Jeune	Deputy A. Howell
Deputy R.S. Kovacs	Deputy T.J.A. Binet
Deputy K.M. Wilson	Deputy M.R. Ferey
Deputy M.B. Andrews	Deputy A.F. Curtis
	Deputy B. Ward
	Deputy L.K.F. Stephenson

THE STATES noted that, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 106, the following members declared an interest in the subject of the amendment of Deputy David James Warr of St. Helier South, in that they might benefit financially with regard to buy-to-let mortgages –

Deputy Montfort Tadier of St. Brelade
 Deputy Kirsten Francis Morel of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity
 Deputy Ian Joseph Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter
 Deputy Kristina Louise Moore of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter
 Deputy Thomas Antony Coles of St. Helier South
 Deputy David James Warr of St. Helier South
 Deputy Hilary Louise Jeune of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity
 Deputy Thomas John Albert Binet of St. Saviour

THE STATES, rejected the amendment of Deputy David James Warr of St. Helier South (P.70/2025 Amd.(14)) that, in paragraph (b)(xii), after the words “in the Appendix to the accompanying Report” there should be inserted the words –

“, except that on page 31 after the words “increases in financial services”, there should be inserted the words –

“The Minister for Treasury and Resources will undertake to re-introduce the policy of Mortgage Interest Tax Relief for personal income tax, with such relief to be implemented in January 2027”.

Members present voted as follows –

POUR: 13

Connétable of St. Mary
 Connétable of St. Saviour
 Deputy G.P. Southern
 Deputy M. Tadier
 Deputy L.M.C. Doublet
 Deputy I. Gardiner
 Deputy K.L. Moore
 Deputy T.A. Coles
 Deputy B.B. de S.V.M. Porée
 Deputy D.J. Warr

CONTRE: 26

Connétable of St. Helier
 Connétable of St. Brelade
 Connétable of Trinity
 Connétable of St. Ouen
 Deputy S.G. Luce
 Deputy K.F. Morel
 Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat
 Deputy S.M. Ahier
 Deputy R.J. Ward
 Deputy I.J. Gorst

ABSTAINED: 2

Connétable of Grouville
 Deputy C.F. Labey

Deputy C.D. Curtis
 Deputy R.S. Kovacs
 Deputy L.K.F. Stephenson

Deputy L.J. Farnham
 Deputy S.Y. Mézec
 Deputy Sir P.M. Bailhache
 Deputy H.M. Miles
 Deputy M.R. Scott
 Deputy J. Renouf
 Deputy L.V. Feltham
 Deputy R.E. Binet
 Deputy H.L. Jeune
 Deputy M.E. Millar
 Deputy A. Howell
 Deputy T.J.A. Binet
 Deputy M.R. Ferey
 Deputy A.F. Curtis
 Deputy B. Ward
 Deputy M.B. Andrews

THE STATES noted that, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 106, the following Members declared an interest in the subject of the amendment of Deputy David James Warr of St. Helier South, in that they might benefit financially with regard to mortgages –

Deputy Carolyn Fiona Labey of Grouville and St. Martin
 Deputy Montfort Tadier of St. Brelade
 Deputy Louise Mary Catherine Doublet of St. Saviour
 Deputy Robert James Ward of St. Helier Central
 Deputy Carina Soares Alves of St. Helier Central
 Deputy Ian Joseph Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter
 Deputy Lyndon John Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter
 Deputy Thomas Antony Coles of St. Helier South
 Deputy Beatriz Borges de Sousa Vaz Moreno Porée of St. Helier South
 Deputy David James Warr of St. Helier South
 Deputy Lyndsay Victoria Feltham of St. Helier Central
 Deputy Rosemary Esther Binet of Grouville and St. Martin
 Deputy Thomas John Albert Binet of St. Saviour
 Deputy Lucy Kate Frances Stephenson of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter

Changes in Presidency

The Bailiff retired briefly from the Chamber during consideration of the amendment of Deputy David James Warr of St. Helier South (P.70/2025 Amd.(14)) to the proposition of the Council of Ministers entitled ‘Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029’ (P.70/2025) and the meeting continued under the Presidency of Mrs Lisa-Marie Hart, Greffier of the States, until the Bailiff’s return.

Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029 P.70/2025

THE STATES, resumed consideration of the proposition of the Council of Ministers entitled ‘Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029’ (P.70/2025), as amended, and rejected an amendment of the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel (P.70/2025 Amd.(18)) that, in paragraph (b)(xii), after the words “as set in the Appendix to the accompanying report”, there should be inserted the words –

“, except that, on page 42, after Table 9, there should be inserted the words “Within the Revenue Head of Expenditure for the Cabinet Office, funding for ‘Statistics and Analytics’ should be increased by £80,000 in 2026 and 2027 and £130,000 in 2028 and 2029, through reallocation of other departmental expenditure within the Cabinet Office. This should be reflected in the Cabinet Office Service Level

Analysis tables contained within the Annex accompanying the Report (R.139/2025), entitled ‘Part 2 – Heads of expenditure financial information’ for the Cabinet Office.’”

Members present voted as follows –

POUR: 18

Connétable of St. Clement
 Connétable of St. Mary
 Deputy G.P. Southern
 Deputy M. Tadier
 Deputy L.M.C. Doublet
 Deputy I. Gardiner
 Deputy K.L. Moore
 Deputy B.B. de S.V.M. Porée
 Deputy D.J. Warr
 Deputy H.M. Miles
 Deputy M.R. Scott
 Deputy J. Renouf
 Deputy C.D. Curtis
 Deputy H.L. Jeune
 Deputy R.S. Kovacs
 Deputy A.F. Curtis
 Deputy K.M. Wilson
 Deputy L.K.F. Stephenson

CONTRE: 25

Connétable of St. Helier
 Connétable of St. Brelade
 Connétable of Trinity
 Connétable of St. John
 Connétable of Grouville
 Connétable of St. Ouen
 Connétable of St. Saviour
 Deputy S.G. Luce
 Deputy K.F. Morel
 Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat
 Deputy S.M. Ahier
 Deputy R.J. Ward
 Deputy C.S. Alves
 Deputy I.J. Gorst
 Deputy L.J. Farnham
 Deputy S.Y. Mézec
 Deputy T.A. Coles
 Deputy L.V. Feltham
 Deputy R.E. Binet
 Deputy M.E. Millar
 Deputy A. Howell
 Deputy T.J.A. Binet
 Deputy M.R. Ferey
 Deputy B. Ward
 Deputy M.B. Andrews

ABSTAINED: 0

THE STATES resumed consideration of the proposition of the Council of Ministers, as amended, and rejected an amendment of the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel (P.70/2025 Amd.(17)) that, in paragraph (b)(xii), after the words “as set in the Appendix to the accompanying report”, there should be inserted the words –

“, except that, on page 42, after Table 9, there should be inserted the words “Within the Revenue Head of Expenditure for the Cabinet Office, funding for ‘Children’s Commissioner’ should be increased by £61,000 in 2026, through reallocation of other departmental expenditure within the Cabinet Office. This should be reflected in the Cabinet Office Service Level Analysis table for 2026 contained within the Annex accompanying the Report (R.139/2025), entitled ‘Part 2 – Heads of expenditure financial information’ for the Cabinet Office.’”

Members present voted as follows –

POUR: 14

Connétable of St. Clement
 Connétable of St. Mary
 Deputy G.P. Southern
 Deputy M. Tadier
 Deputy L.M.C. Doublet
 Deputy T.A. Coles
 Deputy B.B. de S.V.M. Porée

CONTRE: 26

Connétable of St. Helier
 Connétable of St. Brelade
 Connétable of Trinity
 Connétable of St. John
 Connétable of St. Ouen
 Connétable of St. Saviour
 Deputy C.F. Labey

ABSTAINED: 4

Deputy I. Gardiner
 Deputy K.L. Moore
 Deputy D.J. Warr
 Deputy A.F. Curtis

Deputy H.M. Miles
 Deputy J. Renouf
 Deputy C.D. Curtis
 Deputy H.L. Jeune
 Deputy R.S. Kovacs
 Deputy K.M. Wilson
 Deputy L.K.F. Stephenson

Deputy S.G. Luce
 Deputy K.F. Morel
 Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat
 Deputy S.M. Ahier
 Deputy R.J. Ward
 Deputy C.S. Alves
 Deputy I.J. Gorst
 Deputy L.J. Farnham
 Deputy S.Y. Mézec
 Deputy Sir P.M. Bailhache
 Deputy M.R. Scott
 Deputy L.V. Feltham
 Deputy R.E. Binet
 Deputy M.E. Millar
 Deputy A. Howell
 Deputy T.J.A. Binet
 Deputy M.R. Ferey
 Deputy B. Ward
 Deputy M.B. Andrews

THE STATES, resuming consideration of the proposition of the Council of Ministers, as amended, commenced consideration of an amendment of Deputy Montfort Tadier of St. Brelade (P.70/2025 Amd.(33)) and, adopting an amendment of the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development (P.70/2025 Amd.(33).Amd.(2)), agreed that, in part 1, after the words “This consolidation would” there should be inserted the words “not impact or include the funding provided to the Bailiff’s Chambers as part of arts, culture and heritage funding and would”; after the words “Jersey Library”, there should be inserted the word “and” before the words “Community Compass”; and, after the words “Community Compass”, the words “Jersey Music Service and Jërriais teaching” should be deleted.

THE STATES, adopting the amendment of Deputy Montfort Tadier of St. Brelade, as amended, agreed that, in paragraph (b)(xii), after the words “as set in the Appendix to the accompanying Report” there should be inserted the words –

“except that, on page 47, after the words “Included in the annex” there should be inserted a new paragraph as follows –

“In order to ensure that budget allocations for arts, culture and heritage are managed in a simple and transparent manner, the Minister or Treasury and Resources shall work with the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development during 2026 to consolidate all relevant Government spend under the head of expenditure for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture within the Budget (Government Plan) 2027-2030. This consolidation would not impact or include the funding provided to the Bailiff’s Chambers as part of arts, culture and heritage funding and would exclude funding for entities such as Jersey Library and Community Compass which are considered to fall outside of the scope of the arts, culture and heritage funding line.””.

Members present voted as follows –

POUR: 44

CONTRE: 0

ABSTAINED: 0

Connétable of St. Helier
 Connétable of St. Brelade
 Connétable of Trinity
 Connétable of St. John
 Connétable of St. Clement
 Connétable of Grouville

Connétable of St. Ouen
Connétable of St. Mary
Connétable of St. Saviour
Deputy G.P. Southern
Deputy C.F. Labey
Deputy M. Tadier
Deputy S.G. Luce
Deputy L.M.C. Doublet
Deputy K.F. Morel
Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat
Deputy S.M. Ahier
Deputy R.J. Ward
Deputy C.S. Alves
Deputy I. Gardiner
Deputy I.J. Gorst
Deputy L.J. Farnham
Deputy K.L. Moore
Deputy S.Y. Mézec
Deputy Sir P.M. Bailhache
Deputy T.A. Coles
Deputy B.B. de S.V.M. Porée
Deputy D.J. Warr
Deputy H.M. Miles
Deputy J. Renouf
Deputy C.D. Curtis
Deputy L.V. Feltham
Deputy R.E. Binet
Deputy H.L. Jeune
Deputy M.E. Millar
Deputy A. Howell
Deputy T.J.A. Binet
Deputy M.R. Ferey
Deputy R.S. Kovacs
Deputy A.F. Curtis
Deputy B. Ward
Deputy K.M. Wilson
Deputy L.K.F. Stephenson
Deputy M.B. Andrews

THE STATES noted that, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 106, Deputy Kristina Louise Moore of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter declared an interest in the subject of the amendment of Deputy Montfort Tadier of St. Brelade, in that she was a Non-Executive Director of Jersey Opera House.

THE STATES resumed consideration of the proposition of the Council of Ministers, as amended, and rejected an amendment of Deputy Sir Philip Martin Bailhache of St. Clement (P.70/2025 Amd.(2)) that, in paragraph (b)(xii) –

after the words “Appendix to the accompanying Report”, there should be inserted the words –

“, except that –

- (i) on page 87, Table 41 – Health Insurance Fund, should be replaced with the following –

Health Insurance Fund				
	2026	2027	2028	2029

£'000	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Opening Balance	101,259	107,105	112,733	119,050
Social Security Contributions	68,000	70,000	73,000	75,000
Investment income	3,738	4,102	4,547	5,002
Social Benefit Payments	(59,253)	(62,002)	(64,567)	(67,345)
Other expenditure	(6,639)	(6,472)	(6,663)	(6,938)
Closing Balance	107,105	112,733	119,050	124,769

- (ii) on page 88, after the words “skills of primary care staff.” there should be inserted a new paragraph as follows –

“From 2026 the proportion of class 1 and class 2 social security contributions on earnings below the standard earnings limit, paid into the Health Insurance Fund, will increase from 2% to 2.5%. This is estimated to increase contributions paid into the Fund by £14 million in 2026, increasing to £15 million by 2029. This does not change the overall contribution rates paid by employers or employees.”;

- (iii) on page 88, before the words, “The value of the Fund is expected to fall to around £61 million by 2029”, there should be inserted the words, “Without the increase in contributions”;

- (iv) on page 90, after the words “range of working age benefits”, there should be inserted a new paragraph as follows –

“From 2026 the proportion of class 1 and class 2 social security contributions on earnings below the standard earnings limit, paid into the Social Security Fund, will decrease from 10.5% to 10%. This is estimated to decrease contributions paid into the Fund by £14 million in 2026, increasing to £15 million by 2029. This does not change the overall contributions rates paid by employers or employees.”; and

on page 91, Table 43 – Social Security Fund should be replaced with the following –

Social Security Fund				
	2026	2027	2028	2029
£'000	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Opening Balance	107,733	94,670	83,185	77,145
Social Security Contributions	271,000	281,000	290,000	300,000
Other income	185	188	192	192
Transfer from Social Security (Reserve) Fund	64,259	42,073	45,877	45,377
Grant to Social Security Fund	22,768	52,199	53,850	55,499
Social Benefit Payments	(352,789)	(366,598)	(379,684)	(392,721)
Other Expenditure	(17,368)	(16,854)	(11,549)	(9,915)
Revenue expenditure on New Benefits System	(1,118)	(3,493)	(4,726)	(5,197)
Closing Balance	94,670	83,185	77,145	70,380

- (v)

Members present voted as follows –

POUR: 14

Connétable of Trinity
Connétable of St. Saviour
Deputy L.M.C. Doublet
Deputy S.M. Ahier

CONTRE: 28

Connétable of St. Helier
Connétable of St. Brelade
Connétable of St. John
Connétable of St. Clement

ABSTAINED: 1

Deputy J. Renouf

Deputy I. Gardiner	Connétable of Grouville
Deputy K.L. Moore	Connétable of St. Mary
Deputy Sir P.M. Bailhache	Deputy G.P. Southern
Deputy D.J. Warr	Deputy C.F. Labey
Deputy H.M. Miles	Deputy M. Tadier
Deputy H.L. Jeune	Deputy S.G. Luce
Deputy M.R. Ferey	Deputy K.F. Morel
Deputy A.F. Curtis	Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat
Deputy B. Ward	Deputy R.J. Ward
Deputy K.M. Wilson	Deputy C.S. Alves
	Deputy I.J. Gorst
	Deputy L.J. Farnham
	Deputy S.Y. Mézec
	Deputy T.A. Coles
	Deputy B.B. de S.V.M. Porée
	Deputy C.D. Curtis
	Deputy L.V. Feltham
	Deputy R.E. Binet
	Deputy M.E. Millar
	Deputy A. Howell
	Deputy T.J.A. Binet
	Deputy R.S. Kovacs
	Deputy L.K.F. Stephenson
	Deputy M.B. Andrews

THE STATES, resuming consideration of the proposition of the Council of Ministers, as amended, commenced consideration of an amendment of the Health and Social Security Scrutiny Panel (P.70/2025 Amd.(11)) and, adopting an amendment of the Council of Ministers (P.70/2025 Amd.(11).Amd.(2)), agreed that –

for the words “in other areas to be addressed” there should be substituted “the States grant will revert to its formula value from 2030 onwards”;

the words “Given the apparently strong financial position of the Social Security Fund which has led the government to propose a reduction in the States grant,” should be deleted;

after the words “further commits to” there should be inserted “providing options”;

the words “resolving overpayments of social security contributions” should be deleted;

after the words “full contribution record” there should be inserted “prior to reaching pensionable age”;

the words “funding” should be deleted;

after the word “proposals” there should be inserted “by the end of 2026”; and

the words “within the next Proposed Budget 2027-2030” should be deleted.

THE STATES, adopting the amendment of Health and Social Security Scrutiny Panel, as amended, agreed that, in paragraph (b)(xii), after the words “in the Appendix to the accompanying report” there should be inserted the words –

“, except that on page 90 after the words “the States grant will revert to its formula value from 2030 onwards.” there should be inserted the words –

“The Minister for Social Security further commits to providing options for those who have achieved a full contribution record prior to reaching pensionable age to ensure a fair deal for the individuals affected and will bring forward proposals by the end of 2026.””

Members present voted as follows –

POUR: 43

CONTRE: 0

ABSTAINED: 0

Connétable of St. Helier
 Connétable of St. Brelade
 Connétable of Trinity
 Connétable of St. John
 Connétable of St. Clement
 Connétable of Grouville
 Connétable of St. Mary
 Connétable of St. Saviour
 Deputy G.P. Southern
 Deputy C.F. Labey
 Deputy M. Tadier
 Deputy L.M.C. Doublet
 Deputy K.F. Morel
 Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat
 Deputy S.M. Ahier
 Deputy R.J. Ward
 Deputy C.S. Alves
 Deputy I. Gardiner
 Deputy I.J. Gorst
 Deputy L.J. Farnham
 Deputy K.L. Moore
 Deputy S.Y. Mézec
 Deputy Sir P.M. Bailhache
 Deputy T.A. Coles
 Deputy B.B. de S.V.M. Porée
 Deputy D.J. Warr
 Deputy H.M. Miles
 Deputy M.R. Scott
 Deputy J. Renouf
 Deputy C.D. Curtis
 Deputy L.V. Feltham
 Deputy R.E. Binet
 Deputy H.L. Jeune
 Deputy M.E. Millar
 Deputy A. Howell
 Deputy T.J.A. Binet
 Deputy M.R. Ferey
 Deputy R.S. Kovacs
 Deputy A.F. Curtis
 Deputy B. Ward
 Deputy K.M. Wilson
 Deputy L.K.F. Stephenson
 Deputy M.B. Andrews

Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029 P.70/2025

THE STATES resumed consideration of the proposition of the Council of Ministers and, adopting an amendment of the Minister for Treasury and Resources (P.70/2025 Amd.(36)) proposed in accordance with Standing Order 80A, agreed that, in paragraph (b)(xii), after the words “Appendix 2 – Summary Tables 5(i) and (ii) of the Report”, there should be inserted the words –

“, except that in Summary Table 5 (i) –

The heads of expenditure shall be reduced in accordance with the table below –

Head of expenditure	Reduction in net revenue expenditure
Cabinet Office	£9,000
Digital Services	£17,000
People Services	£6,000
Education and Lifelong Learning	£122,000
Children and Families	£94,000
Employment, Social Security and Housing	£24,000
Infrastructure	£30,000
Environment	£6,000
Health and Care Jersey	£180,000
Justice and Home Affairs	£25,000
States of Jersey Police	£15,000
Ministry of External Relations	£2,000
Economic Development, Tourism, Sport & Culture	£18,000
Financial Services	£6,000
Treasury & Exchequer	£37,000
Central Reserve	£65,000 ”

Members present voted as follows –

POUR: 38

Connétable of St. Helier
 Connétable of St. Brelade
 Connétable of Trinity
 Connétable of St. John
 Connétable of St. Clement
 Connétable of Grouville
 Connétable of St. Mary
 Connétable of St. Saviour
 Deputy G.P. Southern
 Deputy C.F. Labey

CONTRE: 4

Deputy M. Tadier
 Deputy H.M. Miles
 Deputy K.M. Wilson
 Deputy M.B. Andrews

ABSTAINED: 0

Deputy S.G. Luce
Deputy L.M.C. Doublet
Deputy K.F. Morel
Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat
Deputy S.M. Ahier
Deputy C.S. Alves
Deputy I. Gardiner
Deputy I.J. Gorst
Deputy L.J. Farnham
Deputy K.L. Moore
Deputy S.Y. Mézec
Deputy Sir P.M. Bailhache
Deputy T.A. Coles
Deputy B.B. de S.V.M. Porée
Deputy D.J. Warr
Deputy M.R. Scott
Deputy J. Renouf
Deputy C.D. Curtis
Deputy L.V. Feltham
Deputy R.E. Binet
Deputy H.L. Jeune
Deputy M.E. Millar
Deputy A. Howell
Deputy T.J.A. Binet
Deputy M.R. Ferey
Deputy A.F. Curtis
Deputy B. Ward
Deputy L.K.F. Stephenson

THE STATES resumed consideration of the proposition of the Council of Ministers, as amended, and, adopting the proposition, as amended and with paragraphs re-designated accordingly in line with the amendments that had been adopted, received the Government Plan 2026 – 2029 specified in Article 9(1) of the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 (“the Law”) and specifically –

- (a) in accordance with Article 16 of the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 (the Law) approved an amendment to the Government Plan 2025 – 2028 (entitled “Budget 2025 – 2028”) to a reduction in the 2025 head of expenditure “Grants to States Funds” as included in Table 5(i) Revenue Heads of Expenditure of that Government Plan from £119,821,000 to £69,821,000;
- (b) received the Government Plan 2026 – 2029 (entitled “Budget 2026-2029”) specified in Article 9(1) of the Law and specifically –
 - (i) approved the estimate of total States income to be paid into the Consolidated Fund in 2026 as set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 1 to the Report, which was inclusive of the proposed taxation and impôts duties changes outlined in the Government Plan, in line with Article 9(2)(a) of the Law; and
 - (ii) referred to their Act dated 24th June 2003 in which they approved that no new ‘user pays’ charges be introduced without any such charge receiving prior in principle approval by the States Assembly and accordingly approved the introduction of two new charges, to be levied by Health and Care Jersey to promote appropriate use of the Emergency Department and for repeated non-attendance of outpatient appointments, detailed in the section entitled “Departmental Income Sources” as set out in the Appendix to the accompanying Report, except that –

- (a) on page 27, for the words “bringing forward two new fees to be introduced during 2026” there should be substituted the words “implementation in 2026 of the planned ‘Did not attend’ fees and the development of detailed proposals, that would be presented for approval by the States Assembly, for the introduction of fees encouraging the appropriate use of the Emergency Department”; and
- (b) on page 28, for the words “Both fees will be introduced during 2026 after a period of advance public communications” there should be substituted the words “The ‘Did not attend’ fees will be introduced during 2026 after a period of advance public communications. However, the proposed Emergency Department fees will not be introduced until detailed, evidence-based proposals (including but not limited to ensuring that free access for genuine emergencies is not compromised and maintaining the safety and wellbeing of health care staff) have been presented to and approved by the States Assembly”;
- (iii) approved the proposed Changes to Approval for financing/borrowing for 2026, as shown in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 2 to the Report, which might be obtained by the Minister for Treasury and Resources, as and when required, in line with Article 9 (2)(c) of the Law, of up to those revised approval amounts;
- (iv) approved the transfers from one States fund to another for 2026 of up to and including the amounts set in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 3 in line with Article 9(2)(b) of the Law;
- (v) approved a transfer from the Consolidated Fund to the Stabilisation Fund in 2026 of up to £50 million, subject to a decision of the Minister for Treasury and Resources based on the availability of funds in the Consolidated Fund as at 31st December 2025 in excess of the estimates provided in this plan, or from budgeted underspends identified before 31st December 2026;
- (vi) approved a transfer from the Consolidated Fund to the Agricultural Loans Fund in 2026 of up to £5 million, subject to a decision of the Minister for Treasury and Resources based on availability of funds in the Consolidated Fund as at 31st December 2025 in excess of estimates provided in this plan, provided that no more than 10% of the total funding allocated to the Agricultural Loans Fund were to be given for the purpose of supporting the cultivation in Jersey of cannabis-based products for medicinal use or from budgeted underspends identified before 31st December 2026;
- (vii) approved each major project that should be started or continued in 2026 and the total cost of each such project and any amendments to the proposed total cost of a major project under a previously approved Government Plan, in line with Article 9(2)(d), (e) and (f) of the Law and as set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 4 to the Report;
- (viii) approved the proposed amount to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund for 2026, for each head of expenditure, being gross expenditure less estimated income (if any), in line with Articles 9(2)(g), 10(1) and 10(2) of the Law, and set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Tables 5(i) and (ii) of the Report, except that –
 - (a) in Summary Table 5 (i) –

The heads of expenditure shall be reduced in accordance with the table below –

Head of expenditure	Reduction in net revenue expenditure
Cabinet Office	£9,000
Digital Services	£17,000
People Services	£6,000

Education and Lifelong Learning	£122,000
Children and Families	£94,000
Employment, Social Security and Housing	£24,000
Infrastructure	£30,000
Environment	£6,000
Health and Care Jersey	£180,000
Justice and Home Affairs	£25,000
States of Jersey Police	£15,000
Ministry of External Relations	£2,000
Economic Development, Tourism, Sport & Culture	£18,000
Financial Services	£6,000
Treasury & Exchequer	£37,000
Central Reserve	£65,000

- (b) in Summary Table 5(i) the expenditure proposal for the Cabinet Office head of expenditure should include the budget for the Jersey Public Services Ombudsperson, totalling £398,000. A separate service area should be created within the Cabinet Office entitled the “Jersey Public Services Ombudsperson” and reported in the Annex to the Budget;
- (c) in “Summary Table 5(i) – Revenue Heads of Expenditure”, within the Cabinet Office Head of Expenditure for 2026 resources should be made available for the development of policy mechanisms to address empty residential properties, should it be required;
- (d) in Table 5(i) the Departmental Head of Expenditure for the Environment should be increased by £656,000, with any consequential amendments to be reflected as necessary throughout the Budget;
- (e) in Summary Table 5(i), the head of expenditure for “Health and Care Jersey” should be reduced by £240,000 and the head of expenditure entitled “States of Jersey Police” shall be increased by £240,000;
- (f) in Summary Table 5(ii) there should be inserted a new row entitled “Neighbourhood Regeneration of St. Helier” with an allocation of £167,000 to each of 2026, 2027 and 2028, and a corresponding decrease for each year to the row titled Infrastructure Rolling Vote and Public Realm;
- (ix) approved the estimated income, being estimated gross income less expenditure, that each States trading operation would pay into its trading fund in 2026 in line with Article 9(2)(h) of the Law and set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 6 to the Report;
- (x) approved the proposed amount to be appropriated from each States trading operation’s trading fund for 2026 for each head of expenditure in line with Article 9(2)(i) of the Law and set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 7 to the Report;
- (xi) approved the estimated income and expenditure proposals for the Climate Emergency Fund for 2026 as set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 8 to the Report; and

(xii) approved, in accordance with Article 9(1) of the Law, the Government Plan 2026-2029, as set in the Appendix to the accompanying Report, except that –

- (a) on page 21, the table entitled “Figure 12 – Economic Wellbeing Risks” should be renamed “Figure 12 – Environmental Wellbeing Risks” and a new line entitled “Climate Emergency” should be inserted as follows –

Climate Emergency	The Budget includes feasibility funding of £1.9 million for the Shoreline Management Plan to alleviate coastal flooding, through the improvement of sea defences. The Budget includes proposals to increase Fuel Excise Duty and Vehicle Emissions Duty, with the income transferred to the Climate Emergency Fund to support the implementation of the Carbon Neutral Roadmap.
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- (b) on page 36 after the words “future Budgets”, there should be inserted a new paragraph as follows –

“Stamp Duty Holiday for Right-Sizing Homes

The Government will undertake an investigation to establish a stamp duty holiday for those who are purchasing properties to down-size, alongside a framework to accurately track these transactions. A down-sizing transaction will be defined as one that involves those who are selling their current home to purchase a home with fewer bedrooms. The purpose of this stamp duty holiday will be to further incentivise right-sizing to increase the supply of family homes.”;

- (c) on page 42, immediately after Table 9, there should be inserted the following new paragraph –

“The budget for a Jersey Public Services Ombudsperson in the Cabinet Office head of expenditure, totalling £398,000, has been ring-fenced to ensure that this budget should not be used for any other States’ purpose than the Jersey Public Services Ombudsperson, to ensure that this undertaking is incorporated into the workstream of any new Government and funded accordingly.”;

- (d) on page 45 after the words “included in Budget 2027.”, there should be inserted the words –

“In order to support this, a draft proposal and expenditure for the new Violence Against Women and Girls legislation will be published in advance of April 2026 alongside a progress report of Recommendations implemented up to 1st May 2026, as part of the 2026 Violence Against Women and Girls: Annual Progress Report.”;

- (e) on page 45, after the words “improve the health of Islanders.” there should be inserted the words –

“The Minister for Health and Social Services will produce a roadmap for delivering preventative health outcomes through a phased, evidence-led, whole-system approach. The Minister will involve the Wider Determinants of Health Ministerial Group in developing the roadmap to ensure ministerial accountability for the delivery and outcomes of the roadmap.”;

- (f) on page 45, after the words “to all 2–3-year-olds”, there should be inserted a new paragraph as follows –

“During 2026 the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning will collect, collate and analyse the necessary data to explore the feasibility of provision of free school meals to all non-fee-paying primary schools and additional households, including, but not limited to, single-parent families and, if feasible, households that would otherwise qualify for Income Support were they not owner-occupiers of a mortgaged residence, reporting to the Assembly prior to the end of 2026.”;

- (g) on page 45, after the words “improve the health of Islanders.” there should be inserted the following new paragraph –

“During 2026, the Minister for Health and Social Services will publish a Women’s Health Strategy, which will be informed by the Women’s Health and Wellbeing Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2024.”;

- (h) on page 47, after the words “Budgets for arts, culture and heritage funding will increase in future years, with inflation allocations for pay and non-pay.”, there should be inserted the words –

“The Education and Lifelong Learning Head of Expenditure includes funding in the sum of £670,700 for promoting and teaching the language of Jèrriais. This will be specifically ringfenced for one year for this purpose and, also, further work will develop and renew the Jèrriais language strategy, which expires in 2025.”

- (i) on page 47, after the words “Included in the annex” there should be inserted a new paragraph as follows –

“In order to ensure that budget allocations for arts, culture and heritage are managed in a simple and transparent manner, the Minister or Treasury and Resources shall work with the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development during 2026 to consolidate all relevant Government spend under the head of expenditure for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture within the Budget (Government Plan) 2027-2030. This consolidation would not impact or include the funding provided to the Bailiff’s Chambers as part of arts, culture and heritage funding and would exclude funding for entities such as Jersey Library and Community Compass which are considered to fall outside of the scope of the arts, culture and heritage funding line.”;

- (j) on page 60, after the words “to revitalise St. Helier.” there should be inserted a new paragraph as follows –

“The Budget allocates £167,000 in each of 2026, 2027 and 2028 to provide funding for the specific regeneration of St. Helier Neighbourhoods, as previously agreed within the Amendment to the 23rd Amendment to the Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2025-2028.”; and

- (k) on page 60, in Table 25 – Infrastructure, there should be inserted a new row entitled

“Neighbourhood Regeneration of St. Helier” with an allocation of £167,000 to each of 2026, 2027 and 2028, and a corresponding decrease for each year to the row entitled Infrastructure Rolling Vote and Public Realm”; and

- (l) on page 90 after the words “the States grant will revert to its formula value from 2030 onwards.” there should be inserted the words –

“The Minister for Social Security further commits to providing options for those who have achieved a full contribution record prior to reaching pensionable age to ensure a fair deal for the individuals affected and will bring forward proposals by the end of 2026.”.

Members present voted as follows –

POUR: 29

Connétable of St. Helier
 Connétable of St. Brelade
 Connétable of St. John
 Connétable of Grouville
 Connétable of St. Mary
 Connétable of St. Saviour
 Deputy G.P. Southern
 Deputy C.F. Labey
 Deputy M. Tadier
 Deputy S.G. Luce
 Deputy L.M.C. Doublet
 Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat
 Deputy R.J. Ward
 Deputy C.S. Alves
 Deputy I.J. Gorst
 Deputy L.J. Farnham
 Deputy S.Y. Mézec
 Deputy T.A. Coles
 Deputy B.B. de S.V.M. Porée
 Deputy D.J. Warr
 Deputy C.D. Curtis
 Deputy L.V. Feltham
 Deputy R.E. Binet
 Deputy M.E. Millar
 Deputy A. Howell
 Deputy T.J.A. Binet
 Deputy M.R. Ferey
 Deputy R.S. Kovacs
 Deputy B. Ward

CONTRE: 10

Connétable of St. Clement
 Deputy S.M. Ahier
 Deputy I. Gardiner
 Deputy K.L. Moore
 Deputy H.M. Miles
 Deputy J. Renouf
 Deputy H.L. Jeune
 Deputy A.F. Curtis
 Deputy K.M. Wilson
 Deputy M.B. Andrews

ABSTAINED: 1

Deputy L.K.F. Stephenson

Changes in Presidency

The Bailiff retired briefly from the Chamber during consideration of the proposition of the Council of Ministers entitled ‘Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029’ (P.70/2025) and the meeting continued under the Presidency of Mrs. Lisa-Marie Hart, Greffier of the States, until the Bailiff’s return.

Adjournment

THE STATES adjourned, having agreed to reconvene on Friday 12th December 2025 to consider the remaining outstanding items of public business.

THE STATES rose at 7.53 p.m.

L.-M. HART

Greffier of the States