| States Assembly

States Greffe

Deputy Elaine Millar
Minster for Treasury and Resources

BY E-MAIL

31st October 2025

Dear Minister

Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Proposed Budget 2026-2029 Review – Written Questions

Following our review hearing with you on 29th October 2025, the following questions remained. The Panel would be grateful if you could consider the following written questions and provide a formal response by no later than **Friday 7th November 2025**.

Technical and Formula Driven Growth

1. The Proposed Budget 2026-29 outlines a number of areas of expenditure that are determined by pre-agreed formulae (Page 47). Can you explain how the pre-agreed formulae are assessed as appropriate and at what intervals the formulae are reviewed?

2. What instigates these reviews?

3. What set guidelines exist for the review mechanism?

Pilot Project Fund

4. Can you outline where allocations for the Chief Minister's 'Pilot Project Fund' are shown in the Proposed Budget 2026-29? (WQ.421/2024)

5. What processes govern this Fund and how much is allocated to it annually?

6. What happens to remaining funds if the annual allocation is not fully spent and are there mechanisms for the reallocation of unspent funds?

7. What mechanisms are in place regarding the use, governance and progress reporting for this Fund and for the projects the monies are attributed to?

Jersey Reclaim Fund and Dormant Bank Accounts (Jersey) Law 2017

Scrutiny Office | States Greffe | Morier House | St Helier | Jersey | JE1 1DD
Tel: 01534 441080 | Fax: 01534 441077 | email: scrutiny@gov.je

Service Analysis

Service Level Analysis

2026 Estimate £'000	Income	Near-Cash Expenditure	Net Revenue Expenditure	Non-Cash Depreciation	Net Revenue Expenditure	FTE Employees
Public Policy	-	3,772	3,772	-	3,772	31.7
Housing, Placemaking & Environment	-	2,532	2,532	-	2,532	27.0
Governance and Assurance	-	355	355	-	355	4.2
Statistics and Analytics	-	1,919	1,919	-	1,919	18.5
Safeguarding Partnership	-	752	752	-	752	8.0
Care Commission	410	2,071	1,661	-	1,661	18.3
Children's Commissioner	-	954	954	-	954	8.0
Charities Commission	-	-	-	-	-	2.0
Advice & Conciliation Services	-	493	493	-	493	-
Ministerial Office, FOI and CEO	-	3,759	3,759	-	3,759	33.0
Communications	-	2,164	2,164	-	2,164	23.0
Total	**410**	**18,771**	**18,361**	**-**	**18,361**	**173.7**
FTE Role Reduction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**410**	**18,771**	**18,361**	**-**	**18,361**	**173.7**

8. It is the Panel's understanding that the Charities Commission is funded through the Jersey Reclaim Fund, in line with the Dormant Bank Accounts (Jersey) Law 2017. Can you explain the mechanism used to fund the Commission (is there a prescribed upper limit for allocations to the Commission)?

9. Should a scenario arise where funds are not available through the Jersey Reclaim Fund, what funding source can be utilised to fund the Charities Commission?

<u>States Funds – Consolidated Fund, Strategic Reserve and Stabilisation Fund</u>

[It is noted within the Proposed Budget 2026-2029 that the balance in the Consolidated Fund has decreased in recent years putting the fund in a cash negative position, requiring an overdraft to fund working capital. This overdraft has associated costs and it is proposed that future Governments consider whether to prioritise the application of excess income to eliminate the overdraft above transfers to the Stabilisation Fund or Reserves.]

10. How would the establishment of the Jersey Capital Investment Fund impact the Consolidated Fund, including its current cash-negative position and overdraft, and why has the decision on applying excess income to eliminate the overdraft been left for future Governments to consider rather than addressed in 2026?

<u>Recommendation – Budget 2024-27</u>

24	In line with the recommendation made by the Fiscal Policy Panel, the Council of Ministers must ensure that the objectives of the States Funds are clear and that policies are adjusted in line with the objectives. This work should be carried out and reported on prior to the lodging of the next Government Plan.		Partially accept	The States have established a total of 25 States Funds that remain active. A full review of the objectives of the funds and associated policies will be time consuming, and therefore it will not be possible to complete the review of all funds in 2024. A workplan will be set out in 2024 with priority given to the most significant funds.	

11. A workplan was set out in 2024 to review the objectives and associated policies of the States Funds. Can you provide an update on the 2025 progress against the 2024 workplan to review the objectives and policies of the States Funds, including which Funds have been reviewed?

<u>Recommendation – Budget 2025-28</u>

34	In line with a previous recommendation of the Fiscal Policy Panel, the Council of Ministers must ensure that the objectives of the States Funds are clear and that policies are adjusted in line with the objectives. This work should continue to be carried out and reported for the remaining States Funds with revised policy proposals for the Stabilisation Fund and Social Security Fund to be included in the next Budget.		Accept	Work with continue to review the objectives of States Funds, including the Stabilisation Fund.	

12. Can you provide an update on the 2025 work to review the objectives of the Stabilisation Fund?

13. How has the Government strengthened its commitment to replenish the Reserves to appropriate levels through the Budget for 2026?

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Helen Miles

Chair
Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel