



States Greffe

Deputy Steve Luce
Minister for Environment

BY EMAIL

13th November 2025

Dear Minister,

Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel

Proposed Budget 2026-2029 Review

As part of its review of the Proposed Budget 2026-2029 (the 'Budget Review'), the Panel is scrutinising the proposals for expenditure and savings in relation to their impact on your Department. During the Budget Review Public Hearing held with you on 5th November 2025, you informed the Panel that:

"...there is no doubt that next year is going to be challenging. The last few years we have been working hard to make sure that we stay inside budget, budget which is continually under pressure".

The Panel also observed Public Hearings undertaken by the Common Strategic Policy Review Panel (the 'CSP Review Panel'), with the Minister for Treasury and Resources and the Chief Minister on 6th November 2025. During those sessions, the Minister for Treasury and Resources noted that:

"the Environment Department has had 118 per cent growth in recent years, which is 58 per cent in real terms" and that the Department had received "just over £5 million in 2020, £11.7 million in 2025 and this year there is a reduction".

To assist the Panel's understanding, please can you provide:

1. A breakdown of the funding allocated to your Department by year from 2020 to 2025.
2. Context about the budgetary pressure faced by your Department during *"the last few years"*.
3. Detail of how you have consulted with the Council of Ministers regarding these budgetary pressures.

Furthermore, during the Budget Review Public Hearing with the Panel on 5th November, you stated that:

"89 pieces of legislation will need to be modified" and that "That work is not costed or funded" in relation to the UK-EU 'reset'.

However, during the CSP Review Panel Public Hearing, the Chief Minister indicated that:

"I am not aware that we are not able to deliver any of our regulatory functions due to budgetary constraints, and it is up to each Minister to decide with their budgets how they allocate it within their department".

4. Please can you provide your views about the extent to which the legislative amendments following a UK-EU 'reset' are achievable, in light of the £750,000 savings proposed for your Department next year?

Finally, during the Budget Review Public Hearing with the Panel on 5th November, you stated that "*we do not have any contingency within our budget*", with reference also made by you and your Chief Officer to a number of risk registers, including corporate, environmental, and community risk registers. To assist the Panel's understanding, please provide:

5. Details of the criteria and methodology used by your Department when assessing and prioritising risks within these risk registers.
6. Information on whether any risks identified across these registers have been heightened as a result of the absence of contingency funding.

The Panel should be grateful if you could provide responses to the above questions by no later than Thursday, 20th November 2025.

Yours sincerely,



Deputy Hilary Jeune
Chair, Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Panel