



States Greffe

Deputy Kirsten Morel
Minister for Sustainable Economic Development

BY EMAIL

15th January 2026

Dear Minister,

Animal Welfare & Control Review – Policing of Beaches (Jersey) Regulations 1959

As part of its Animal Welfare & Control Review, the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel is examining how animal control legislation operates across a range of public settings, including under the *Policing of Beaches (Jersey) Regulations 1959*. The Terms of Reference for the review are appended to this letter for your reference.

A key area under consideration is the control of dogs in public spaces. The Panel is aware of the long-standing public calls to reconsider the seasonal restrictions on dogs being off leads during the summer months, as well as suggestions for the designation of an allocated “dog beach”.

As such, the Panel would be grateful if you could clarify whether your Department has given any consideration or explored policy options in response to those public calls. Furthermore, the Panel would welcome confirmation of whether your Department holds any data in relation to the enforcement of the Regulations, including the number of fines or complaints raised regarding dog-related offences on beaches over the past 5 years.

Any information you can provide will assist the Panel in its ongoing scrutiny of how animal control measures are balanced with public access, enforcement, and community expectations.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Hilary Jeune
Chair, Environment, Housing, and Infrastructure Panel

Terms of Reference

1. To examine whether the *Draft Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 202-* is fit for purpose and how it will meet its intended aims of:
 - a. replacing the *Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 2004* to shift from a reactive enforcement model towards a proactive, prevention-based system,
 - b. aligning with modern scientific understanding of animal sentience and current UK and EU welfare standards, and
 - c. granting the Minister with greater flexibility to respond quickly to new scientific developments or welfare guidance.
2. To identify any effects, resource implications and/or unintended consequences of the *Draft Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 202-* on enforcement officers, animal welfare organisations, animal-activity operators, pet-owners and the wider public.
3. To assess the structure of the *Draft Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 202-*, including the provision for order-making powers and the role of secondary legislation.
4. To examine the coherence, clarity and effectiveness of the existing statutory framework governing dog ownership, behaviour and control.
5. To evaluate the coherence and compatibility of the *Draft Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 202-*, the *Dogs (Jersey) Law 1961* and *Policing of Beaches, Parks and Roads Regulations* as a combined framework, including:
 - a. gaps, overlaps or inconsistencies between the regimes,
 - b. alignment of enforcement powers across relevant bodies,
 - c. the effectiveness of the combined model for welfare, ownership and public protection, and
 - d. whether consolidation is desirable.