



Monday 5th January 2026

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

Re: Scrutiny of the Island Construction & Engineering (ICE) Programme

Thank you for your request on behalf of the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel regarding the Island Construction & Engineering (ICE) Programme. We understand that the Panel is reviewing the delivery of capital projects as part of its consideration of the Proposed Budget 2026–2029 (P.70/2025). Given the significance of the Programme to the Government's *Investing in Jersey (2026-2050)* agenda, the Panel's concerns about the potential consequences of delays are both valid and important.

The Jersey Construction Council (JeCC) welcomes the opportunity to provide the following comments.

We acknowledge that the original release date of the ICE Programme was delayed due to several factors, including budget amendments. A pre-briefing was held on 18 December with senior representatives from industry, during which the Minister presented the Government's perspective on the Programme, alongside contributions from Andium Homes, the Jersey Development Company and Ports of Jersey.

At that meeting, it was agreed that holding an event in the first week after Christmas would be impractical, given the short notice and the number of industry professionals likely to be off-island. JeCC therefore recommended hosting the event in the second week of January to ensure adequate engagement and to allow sufficient time to notify members.

It is very positive that, in addition to Government projects, several Arm's-Length Organisations (ALOs) have incorporated their proposed projects into the Programme. We are grateful to those organisations for producing and sharing their data so that meaningful, accurate information can be presented.

We also recognise the considerable effort required to collate and update this data. While the delay is regrettable, the priority must be accuracy, and we welcome the decision to ensure information is correct before publication. We stress, however, that appropriate resources must be allocated to ensure the Programme is updated annually.

External factors will inevitably influence the ICE Programme. Economic conditions, technological developments, ministerial decisions, budget changes and policy shifts may all affect spending profiles and delivery timelines. Similar pressures apply to ALOs, whose priorities may also evolve over time.



Industry representatives, through the Jersey Development Industry Partnership Board, have made significant progress in streamlining and improving the planning process. Meanwhile, private developers also require confidence in Jersey and in the stability of the local construction sector.

Collaboration between Government, ALOs, JeCC, the Chamber of Commerce, AJA, CIGPE and other organisations represented on the Construction Hub Strategic Board should continue to be encouraged, as such cooperation is essential to support a healthy and resilient industry.

Without timely data and forward visibility, the industry lacks the evidence needed to plan and invest in its future. Businesses require confidence in the short, medium and long-term pipeline of works to justify investment in both their workforce and their operations. Workforce planning, in particular, becomes extremely challenging when the project pipeline is unclear.

The visibility and accuracy of the ICE Programme are vital across the entire construction supply chain—including architects, engineers, surveyors, project managers, designers, principal contractors, subcontractors and the many suppliers of related goods and services. Collectively, this sector comprises approximately 1,500 businesses and 6,000 locally employed workers.

The Programme also plays a crucial role in supporting education and talent development initiatives across the sector. Programmes such as Primary Engineer, Design Engineer Construct (DEC) at GCSE and A-Level, Project Trident, IOD Work Shadowing, apprenticeships and further education courses delivered at Highlands College rely on a clear project pipeline to give young people, parents, employers and educators confidence in the long-term prospects of the industry.

We also highlight the importance and ease of procuring services from on-Island suppliers, wherever practicable, supporting Jersey's circular economy and delivering wider economic value.

In due course, it will be necessary to review the actual data contained within the ICE Programme, assessing current progress, identifying areas where projects have or have not been delivered as planned, and understanding the causes and impacts of any delays. This will be particularly valuable for Ministers and officers, enabling clearer insight into the unintended consequences of changes to policy, timelines and decision-making processes. Such understanding is critical to safeguarding industry confidence, continuing to support local skills training and protecting local employment.

Over the Christmas break, we have now been made aware that a presentation to the wider industry will takeplace on Thursday 15th January 2026.

The JeCC would welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss any of these matters in further detail, should this be helpful.

Adrian De Gruchy
Chairman
Jersey Construction Council