States Assembly

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Deputy Gerald Voisin
Minister for Economic Development

BY EMAIL

4th November 2026

Dear Minister,

Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel

Quarterly Hearing Follow-up

Firstly, thank you for your attendance at our recent public hearing of 26th October 2026. The Panel found the discussion most useful and was pleased to hear about the progression you are making in Economic Development. As highlighted during proceedings we have a number of supplementary questions which we would be grateful to receive further information on, in order to aid in consideration of our scrutiny work,

Legislation

1. Please could you provide a list of any anticipated legislative changes that you plan to bring forward? We would value a brief background of the aim of the proposition and a timeframe for their development.

Visitor Economy

2. How confident are you that Jersey has sufficiently timely and reliable data about who visits, why they choose Jersey and what they spend, to guide marketing and investment decisions?

    a. How will you assess the indirect value added by visitors to the wider economy, for example in connectivity, retail spend or other economic multipliers?

        i. Would the Minister support a follow on to the 2017 report on the Economic Contribution of Tourism to Jersey and 2019 update, or for example have a simple calculation for a multiplier?

3. How do you monitor compliance with the DFDS concession agreement, for example on the number of timetabled sailings provided on both the north and south routes, as well as the number and reasons for cancellations?

    a. Please can you confirm the data sources for monitoring and how this is verified by your officers?

4. Minister, are you supportive of the previous decision made to give financial contributions to the filming of Bergerac on island and is it the intention to continue, increase or decrease this support?

    a. Many islanders, and indeed tourists, would prefer to see Jersey feature more highly in the programme. What restricts greater filming on the island and can anything be done to increase the local component?

    b. Has there been any work undertaken in promoting wider film production on the island?

    c. Are you working with the Minister for Treasury and Resources to look at the possibility of tax incentives that are targeted towards the film industry?

Barriers to Business

5. Could you please provide the Panel with an update regarding the progress of implementing the Barriers to Business report's 38 recommendations?

6. Recommendation 12 of the Barriers to Business report, relating to legislative exemptions for small businesses, was listed as "Future Review" in 2023. Could you provide an update on the Government's consideration of this recommendation moving forward and explain what support is available to small businesses in the meantime?

    a. Similarly, recommendation 17 identified the need to reduce legislative burden and report annually on progress made. Can you please outline any work being undertaken in this specific area?

7. The Proposed Common Strategic Policy identifies the aim to reduce the burden of regulation to businesses. Rather than a follow-up Barriers to Business review, will you publish an updated, prioritised delivery plan for the existing recommendations, with timescales and measures?

Better Business Support Package

8. During the hearing you indicated a desire to resurrect the Better Business Support Package in the future. Please could you provide any evidence that the package has improved productivity and helped businesses remain competitive during the transition towards a living wage?

    a. What measurable outcomes have been achieved, rather than just grant approvals or spending?

    b. How do you assess whether supported investments would have happened without a grant?

    c. Which elements have worked less well and what changes are planned accordingly for any future package?

9. When will any updated package be brought forward, what budget requirements are anticipated and how will this be funded?

10. Proposed Common Strategic Policy 3.3 is to continue working towards a living wage while supporting jobs, growth and competitiveness. What evidence is being collected

about impacts on employment, entry-level opportunities, prices and productivity, broken down by sector and business size?

a. How are businesses, workers and relevant Ministers being involved in reviewing emerging effects and making any necessary changes?

Skills and Apprenticeships

11. Proposed Common Strategic Policy 5 indicates the aim to increase the provision of lifelong learning. As discussed during the hearing, is there anything further you wish to identify to be the most significant skills shortages currently facing Jersey's economy?

    a. The Panel would be grateful to receive the annual skills gap analysis identified in the hearing, if this can please be forwarded.

12. Following the transfer of Skills Jersey to another portfolio, what arrangements ensure that workforce planning and training provision remain aligned with the economy's current and future needs?

    a. How are employers involved in designing training routes and qualifications?

    b. Who is accountable if shortages persist or apprenticeship schemes remain difficult to access?

    c. How are emerging industries and AI reflected in skills planning?

Thank you for your time on this matter, we would greatly appreciate receiving this information by 11th November 2026. Please be advised that it is the Panel's intention to publish responses it receives on the States Assembly website.

Yours Sincerely,



Deputy Samantha Gleave
Chair, Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel