JERSEY FARMERS UNION

9th November 2026

Deputy Hilary Jeune
Chair, Environment, Housing & Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel
States Greffe
Morier House
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Dear Deputy

Thank you for your letter of 15th October, inviting the JFU to comment on the Proposed Budget 2027 - 2030

Review and revision of the Carbon Neutral Roadmap, supported by the Climate Emergency Fund, which is forecast to receive £4.252 million in 2027. The Roadmap sets out the Island's policies and actions for reducing carbon emissions and achieving net zero by 2050.

1. **Do you consider the current level of funding through the Climate Emergency Fund sufficient to support Jersey's net zero ambitions and wider climate objectives?**

The current level of funding is sufficient in so far as practical ideas from within the agricultural sector to progress Climate Change Mitigation. R & D has not progressed due to agriculture being previously 'lost' within the Economic Development Department.

2. **Which actions or policy areas should be prioritised through the revised Carbon Neutral Roadmap over the next five years?**

Over the next five years we should prioritise agriculture as one of the solutions to achieving nett zero by 2050.

Now with agriculture being 'back' at Howard Davis Farm, agricultural solutions to mitigating climate change can be harnessed. With much more explicit recognition alongside the environment, the clearer more focused leadership will be able to more easily deliver the range R & D projects many of which have been delayed, finally up and running. The expansion of both Miscanthus Grass and Paulownia production both with huge animal bedding potential for our dairy industry as well as huge potential in storing carbon.

From within the agricultural sector the ability to produce Bio Char at scale is awaiting the completion of processing infrastructure in order to proceed to market.

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3. **What opportunities and challenges do you foresee for your sector in achieving Jersey's net zero target by 2050?**

By including much more focus on agriculture, particularly as we are measuring our Carbon, agriculture offers many exciting opportunities. The opportunities are significant and the challenges surmountable.

Additional recurring funding of £1.1 million per annum from 2027 for agriculture and fisheries support. This funding continues the Better Business Support package which was approved by the States Assembly.

The recurring funding of £1.1 million per annum from 2027 for agriculture and fisheries support from the Better Business Support package which was approved by the States Assembly is most welcome. The industry is very grateful to the Assembly for ensuring this funding continues in perpetuity.

This recurring funding remaining part of the overall funding definitely supports the long-term sustainability and the resilience of the sector. Whilst not the most supportive when compared to other jurisdictions it nonetheless a massive 1000% improvement from where we were in 2019 and helps the industry cope with rising costs more easily.

Thus, the dairy industry remains in a strong position thanks to excellent use of genetics, fantastic marketing of a growing range of products all reinforced with renewed government support which is helping attract the next generation into the industry.

Having watched the success of the dairy industry closely, elements from within the potato industry, backed by government support, have pioneered new harvesting and packing systems and are proactively seeking out new export markets. These are already delivering positive outcomes and lighting the way to a brighter future. Encouraged by what they see, the next generation is keen to become involved. It may be that the budget is increased in future not from a survival aspect but rather the desire to accelerate growth into these and constantly added new markets.

I cannot speak for the fisheries sector other than to say that elements from within it do have some great ideas to revive the sector and should be listened to.

All the support arrangements that are in place are generally right for their time but can and no doubt will be tweaked for both agriculture and fisheries going forward. This will be keenly monitored by the JFU in cooperation with the other stakeholders and the new Environment, Agriculture and Fisheries Department.

The JFU would like to see the Better Business Productivity Grants scheme continue across all industries with special consideration for agriculture where increased support could be given by increasing the level of match funding to better reflect the needs of the industry.

Yours sincerely



D A Richardson
President