

# STATES OF JERSEY



## **PROPOSED GOVERNMENT PLAN 2024- 2027 (P.72/2023): FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT (P.72/2023 AMD.(15)) – AMENDMENT**

### **INCOME SUPPORT FOR CARERS OF CHILDREN WITH LIFE-THREATENING, LIFE-LIMITING, OR COMPLEX HEALTHCARE NEEDS**

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Lodged au Greffe on 5th December 2023  
by the Council of Ministers

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STATES GREFFE

PROPOSED GOVERNMENT PLAN 2024-2027 (P.72/2023): FIFTEENTH  
AMENDMENT (P.72/2023 AMD.(15)) – AMENDMENT

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**1 PAGE 3, PARAGRAPH (1) –**

After the words “to enable”, substitute the remaining paragraph with “a non-statutory scheme to be set up to provide financial support to eligible families that include a child with a life-limiting condition, a life-threatening condition, or a complex healthcare need with a decrease of £600,000 to the Central Reserve Head of Expenditure.”

**2 PAGE 3, PARAGRAPH (2) –**

After the words “allocated for 2024 to” substitute the remaining paragraph with “enable a non-statutory scheme to be set up to provide financial support to eligible families that include a child with a life-limiting condition, a life-threatening condition, or a complex healthcare need. During 2024 the Government will bring forward legislation in provide for a permanent scheme for future years.”

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

**Note:** After this amendment, the amendment would read as follows –

**1 PAGE 3, PARAGRAPH (h) –**

After the words “Appendix 2 – Summary Tables 5(i) and (ii) of the Report” insert the words –

“, except that, in Summary Table 5(i) the Head of Expenditure for Customer and Local Services should be increased by £600,000 to enable a non-statutory scheme to be set up to provide financial support to eligible families that include a child with a life-limiting condition, a life-threatening condition, or a complex healthcare need with a decrease of £600,000 to the Central Reserve Head of Expenditure”

**2 PAGE 3, PARAGRAPH (l) –**

After the words “as set out at Appendix 3 of the Report” insert the words –

“, except that, on page 90 after the words “benefits for many years to come.” there should be inserted a new paragraph as follows –

“Funds have been allocated for 2024 to enable a non-statutory scheme to be set up to provide financial support to eligible families that include a child with a life-limiting condition, a life-threatening condition, or a complex healthcare

need. During 2024 the Government will bring forward legislation in provide for a permanent scheme for future years.”

**Note:** After this amendment, the proposition would read as follows –

**THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –**

to receive the Government Plan 2024 – 2027 specified in Article 9(1) of the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 (“the Law”) and specifically –

- (a) to approve the estimate of total States income to be paid into the Consolidated Fund in 2024 as set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 1 to the Report, which is inclusive of the proposed taxation and impôts duties changes outlined in the Government Plan, in line with Article 9(2)(a) of the Law;
- (b) to refer to their Act dated 30th September 2016 and to approve the application of existing resources for work on the development of ‘user pays’ charges in relation to all aspects of waste, including commercial and domestic liquid and solid waste;
- (c) to approve the proposed Changes to Approval for financing/borrowing for 2024, as shown in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 2 to the Report, which may be obtained by the Minister for Treasury and Resources, as and when required, in line with Article 9 (2)(c) of the Law, of up to those revised approvals;
- (d) to approve the extension of the use of the existing Revolving Credit Facility to include the provision of funds that would otherwise be implemented through bank overdraft or bank overdraft facilities under Article 26 (1)(a) of the Law, should they be needed, subject to the limits outlined in that article;
- (e) to approve the transfers from one States fund to another for 2024 of up to and including the amounts set in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 3 in line with Article 9(2)(b) of the Law;
- (f) to approve a transfer from the Consolidated Fund to the Stabilisation Fund in 2024 of up to £25 million, subject to a decision of the Minister for Treasury and Resources based on the availability of funds in the Consolidated Fund as at 31 December 2023 in excess of the estimates provided in this plan, or from budgeted underspends identified before 31 December 2024;
- (g) to approve each major project that is to be started or continued in 2024 and the total cost of each such project and any amendments to the proposed total cost of a major project under a previously approved Government Plan, in line with Article 9(2)(d), (e) and (f) of the Law and as set out in Appendix 2 - Summary Table 4 to the Report;
- (h) to approve the proposed amount to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund for 2024, for each Head of Expenditure, being gross expenditure less estimated income (if any), in line with Articles 9(2)(g), 10(1) and 10(2) of the

Law, and set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Tables 5(i) and (ii) of the Report; except that, in Summary Table 5(i) the Head of Expenditure for Customer and Local Services should be increased by £600,000 to enable a non-statutory scheme to be set up to provide financial support to eligible families that include a child with a life-limiting condition, a life-threatening condition, or a complex healthcare need with a decrease of £600,000 to the Central Reserve Head of Expenditure”

- (i) to approve the estimated income, being estimated gross income less expenditure, that each States trading operation will pay into its trading fund in 2024 in line with Article 9(2)(h) of the Law and set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 6 to the Report;
- (j) to approve the proposed amount to be appropriated from each States trading operation’s trading fund for 2024 for each head of expenditure in line with Article 9(2)(i) of the Law and set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 7 to the Report;
- (k) to approve the estimated income and expenditure proposals for the Climate Emergency Fund for 2024 as set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 8 to the Report; and
- (l) to approve, in accordance with Article 9(1) of the Law, the Government Plan 2024-2027, as set out at Appendix 3 to the Report, , except that, on page 90 after the words “benefits for many years to come.” there should be inserted a new paragraph as follows –

“Funds have been allocated for 2024 to enable a non-statutory scheme to be set up to provide financial support to eligible families that include a child with a life-limiting condition, a life-threatening condition, or a complex healthcare need. During 2024 the Government will bring forward legislation in provide for a permanent scheme for future years.”

## **REPORT**

The Council of Ministers welcomes the amendment, which seeks to provide support to a small number of families with a child who has a life-limiting condition, a life-threatening condition, or a complex healthcare need but who does not have ongoing care needs so as to qualify for the existing Child Personal Care scheme.

The original amendment did not identify a funding source for the additional expenditure, which would leave the consolidated fund overdrawn in future years of the plan. To ensure proper regard to the sustainability of the public finances, the Council of Ministers, in making this amendment, seeks to decrease the Central Reserve Head of Expenditure. This is in order to provide the funding for this scheme, including meeting the costs of the benefits proposed by reducing the provision in the Central Reserve set aside for unexpected increases in social benefit spend due to changes in economic circumstances.

This will allow the benefit costs of this scheme to be managed within the total allocations to benefit spend, albeit with some additional risk as a smaller reserve will reduce Government's ability to react to any unforeseen increases in benefit costs.

The opportunity has been taken to align the wording of (h) and (l) and to ensure that the new scheme can be developed appropriately.

### **Financial and staffing implications**

To meet this additional expenditure, the Central Reserve Head of Expenditure, will be reduced – including the provision in that reserve for unexpected increases in benefit spend.

The development of this scheme will not be straightforward and significant staffing resources will need to be allocated to this project in 2024. These staffing resources will need to be drawn from existing staffing resources (CLS, HCS, CYPES, CABO) and will require other planned work in the relevant Ministers' ministerial plans to be delayed or deferred.

Once a new scheme has been established, staffing resources will be required to maintain the scheme.

At this stage, it is anticipated that the cost of these additional set up and operating costs will be able to be met from the total £600,000 allocation.