## Minister for Treasury and Resources



19-21 Broad Street | St Helier Jersey | JE2 4WE

Chair, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

By email

14<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Kristina,

## Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel Fiscal Stimulus Fund - Tranche 1 Allocation Recommendations

Thank you very much for your letter and private comments on the Tranche 1 Allocation Recommendations made by the Fiscal Stimulus Oversight Group (FSOG).

The FSOG was formed to make recommendations on allocations of the Fiscal Stimulus Fund by States proposition (P.128/2020) and have worked diligently to apply the agreed criteria on the applications received. The Fiscal Stimulus Fund was widely publicised as evidenced by the amount of applications received in Tranche One and this has given the Group a considerable task in ensuring that the outcomes can be managed within a challenging timescale and meet the objectives of the Fund and contribute to the economic recovery of the Island.

In terms of the points made in your letter, it is my view that FSOG have worked to recommend as diverse a range of projects with benefits across sectors and demographics, as possible, within the applications as received. Both I and FSOG would have liked to have seen more eligible projects relating to skills and training and I am considering ways of managing this with any funding that remains after the appraisal process for Tranche Two is completed. It is my view that the projects recommended will provide Fiscal Stimulus in 2021 and will enhance community assets for the benefit of Islanders.

There is a general point made that there is a risk that part of the recommendations replaces funding that should appear in the Government Plan. FSOG have considered this as part of their ongoing discussions and have taken care to ensure that the recommendations meet the terms of the proposition. In particular, there was discussion around certain sporting facility applications which are related to the sports strategy and focussed on Fort Regent. Whilst the projects recommended for approval are not explicitly in the Government Plan it is recognised that sports funding in general is mentioned. FSOG have taken a holistic view of the individual projects and weighed up this point with the overriding benefit of these projects and their ability to meet the objectives of the Fiscal Stimulus Fund.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your work on Tranche One and I should be in a position to provide you with the requested documentation relating to Tranche Two in the week commencing 19<sup>th</sup> April. It is my plan to make my final decision on Tranche Two recommendations in the week commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

Yours sincerely

Susie Piños

Deputy Susie Pinel Minister for Treasury and Resources

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