1240/5/1(501)

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Question

Further to the response to Written Question 1(429) on 18th July 2017, will the Chief Minister detail for members the initiatives (whether through States Departments or private-sector bodies) which have received funding from the Economic and Productivity Growth Drawdown Provision (EPGDP); who signed off the funding in each case; and what criteria are used in assessing the success or failure of each initiative?

Answer

The initiatives which have received funding from the EPGDP

The following initiatives have received funding:

- Data Protection
- Digital Jersey Hub
- Financial Services Review
- Brexit
- Skills Strategy

In addition, the following initiatives have been recommended for funding by the Economic Policy Political Oversight Group and are either awaiting ministerial decision by the Treasury Minister or have yet to draw down funding:

- Jersey Business High Growth Pilot
- Skills Jersey

Who signed off the funding in each case?

Consistent with the process for any allocation from Central Contingencies, the Treasury Minister ultimately signs off all EPGDP projects. In doing so, he takes into account the recommendations of the Economic Policy Political Oversight Group and the EPGDP Officer Group.

What criteria are used in assessing the success or failure of each initiative?

Each project is required to provide details of success criteria as part of the application process. These criteria are bespoke for each project and set out in detailed business cases but, as far as possible, are linked to impacts on GVA, employment or productivity.

Where direct links cannot be made due, for example, to a lack of available data, success criteria are focused on outputs and a demonstrable economic rationale. The potential impacts are assessed by the Economics Unit as part of the approval process. Projects related to Brexit are assessed by reference to the delivery of the work that is required to ensure the Island responds adequately to changes required by the UK's withdrawal from the European Union.