WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES BY DEPUTY R.S. KOVACS OF ST. SAVIOUR QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 24th OCTOBER 2022 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 31st OCTOBER 2022

Question

In respect of the Government's revenue forecasts for each year from 2023 to 2026, will the Minister –

- (a) provide a detailed breakdown of the total including any reserve funds left after considering the budget allocations in the proposed Government Plan 2023-2026; and
- (b) identify all lines of forecast income or estimated taxes to be collected, separately highlighting any areas of considered overachievement that have been included and the level of inflation (as a percentage) that was used in those calculations?

Answer

(a) provide a detailed breakdown of the total including any reserve funds left after considering the budget allocations in the proposed Government Plan 2023-2026; and

The forecast balance in the Consolidated Fund across the Government Plan period is set out on page 74 of the Government Plan (reproduced below).

	Consolidated Fund					
2022		2023	2024	2025	2026	
Forecast	£'000	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	
122,298	Opening Balance	59,050	14,730	5,591	50	
	Operating Surplus/(Deficit)					
982,848	Revenue	1,072,468	1,163,254	1,192,950	1,233,625	
(937,730)	Net Revenue Expenditure	(996,344)	(1,099,366)	(1,131,958)	(1,152,181)	
45,118		76,124	63,888	60,992	81,444	
	Other Movements in Fund Balances					
13,000	Prior Year Basis Tax Debt Receipts	11,000	11,000	12,500	12,500	
54,000	Release of unspent Capital Allocations	-				
23,000	Release of unspent Covid-19 Allocations	-				
90,000		11,000	11,000	12,500	12,500	
	Capital and Other Projects Expenditure					
(125,310)	Capital and other projects expenditure	(140,515)	(88,353)	(72,028)	(61,703	
(125,310)		(140,515)	(88,353)	(72,028)	(61,703	
	Capital Financing Transfers In					
2,985	Criminal Offences Confiscation Fund	1,811	777			
4,700	Health Insurance Fund	6,350	5,705			
11,320	Strategic Reserve - Capital Repayment	1,000	336	-		
989	Charitable Funds					
19,994		9,161	6,818			
	Fund Transfers In/(Out)					
3,000	Jersey Innovation Fund	-				
(20,000)	Technology Accelerator Fund	-				
(1,244)	Insurance Fund	-				
(4,400)	Climate Emergency Fund	(4,400)	(4,400)	(4,400)	(4,400	
-	Strategic Reserve - Pension Refinancing Repayment	(1,790)	(2,192)	(2,605)	(3,028	
8,300	Health Insurance Fund	6,100	4,100	-		
(19,600)	Fiscal Stimulus Fund			-		
5,700	Loans Fund			-		
(28,244)		(90)	(2,492)	(7,005)	(7,428	
(64,806)	Borrowing Drawdown/(Repayment)	-				
59,050	Closing Balance	14,730	5,591	50	24,863	

Table 37: Consolidated Fund

This includes the forecasted total revenue to be received into the Consolidated Fund, and the budget allocations for both revenue and capital expenditure from the fund, as well as transfers into and out of the Consolidated Fund. The closing balance reflects the estimated remaining amount held in the fund at the end of each forecasted year.

Under Article 9 of the Public Finances Law: "The Council of Ministers must not lodge a government plan that shows a negative balance in the Consolidated Fund at the end of any of the financial years covered by the plan." and the balance left in 2023 will be used to fund capital expenditure in 2024 and 2025.

(b) identify all lines of forecast income or estimated taxes to be collected, separately highlighting any areas of considered overachievement that have been included and the level of inflation (as a percentage) that was used in those calculations?

The estimate for total States Income is broken down in the General Revenue Income section of the <u>Proposed Government Plan</u> within table 2, on page 26 (reproduced below). This is based upon the latest forecast from the Income Forecasting Group, produced in Summer 2022. A link to the latest Income Forecasting Group report is found <u>here</u>.

	2023	2024	2025	2026	
£'000	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	
Income Taxes	751,000			900,000	
Goods and Services Tax (GST)	108,200	110,630	112,530	114,300	
Impôts Duties	79,088	81,257	82,837	83,570	
Stamp Duty			59,879	62,94	
General Tax Revenue - IFG Summer 22	995,215	995,215 1,075,458 1,121,		1,160,81	
Other Income					
- Parish Rates	15,555	16,161	16,598	16,996	
- Dividend Income	9,669	10,157	10,716	11,113	
- Income from Andium Homes and Housing Trusts	29,156	29,702	30,210	30,618	
- Other Non-dividend Income	7,776	7,779	10,183	10,086	
States Income - IFG Summer 22	1,057,371	1,139,257	1,188,953	1,229,628	
Additional Income Measures					
- Mini Budget	(19,850)	(19,100)	(19,100)	(19,100	
- Increased Collections: Domestic Compliance	14,000	15,500	15,500	15,500	
- One-off Dividend Income	20,000	20,000			
- Budget Measures	947	947	947	94	
- Future Tax Measures	-	6,650	6,650	6,650	
States Income after Income Measures	1,072,468	1,163,254	1,192,950	1,233,625	
States Income - IFG Spring 21 Revised Forecast	974,924	1,022,524	1,066,916	1,066,916	
General Tax Revenue - IFG Forecast Variation %	8.5%	11.4%	11.4%	15.3%	

Table 2: Total States Income

Details of the assumptions used in producing the income forecasts are provided in the latest Income Forecasting Group report, which uses the independent Fiscal Policy Panel (FPP) economic assumptions published in their Medium Term Report - July 2022, reproduced below. The inflation (RPI) assumptions are also included on page 5 of the Income Forecasting Group – Summer 2022 Forecast.

July 2022 Forecast

July 2022 Polecast							Trend
% change unless otherwise specified	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026+
Real GVA	-8.7	5.4	4.1	8.6	1.3	0.1	0.5
RPI	1.3	2.7	7.7	6.7	3.9	2.7	2.4
RPIY	1.2	2.7	6.2	5.2	3.7	2.7	2.4
Nominal GVA	-7.2	8.2	10.5	14.1	4.9	2.8	2.9
Gross operating surplus (including rental)	-15.5	11.0	16.5	24.3	5.6	2.5	2.9
Financial services profits	-18.1	19.5	26.2	42.3	6.2	1.6	3.2
Compensation of employees (CoE)	-1.8	6.1	5.8	5.4	4.3	3.2	2.9
Financial services CoE	0.3	3.6	6.1	5.1	4.1	3.1	3.4
Non-finance CoE	-0.1	8.0	6.7	5.5	4.3	3.1	2.7
Employment	-2.4	3.0	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.1
Average earnings	1.1	3.3	5.3	4.9	3.8	2.9	2.8
Interest rates (%)	0.2	0.1	1.2	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.6*
House prices	6.1	16.0	6.0	5.0	4.0	3.0	2.9
Housing transactions	-3.8	15.1	3.5	3.0	2.5	2.5	4.0

^{*}Trend interest rates represent market expectations for 2026

The Income Forecasting Group, produce a forecast range using higher and lower adjustments to the FPP economic assumptions, this is set out in section 5 of the IFG report. The forecast used in the Government Plan is the central scenario.