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Deputy Rob Ward
Chairman, Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel.
Scrutiny Office,
States Greffe,
Morier House,
St Helier,
Jersey,
JE11DD

10th September 2019

Dear Deputy Robert Ward.

Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel, Government Plan Review

Thank you for your letter of the 27th of August 2019 requesting information on the draft Government Plan and please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

It is my understanding that the Chief Minister has sent correspondence to the Chair of the Government Plan Review Panel outlining how he will provide supporting documents including the Council of Ministers' papers in a coordinated response; these documents should have been made available to you by now.

I can confirm the following projects do come under my portfolio:

Projects
Children's Change Programme (CSP1-1-01, CSP1-1-02, CSP1-1-03, CSP1-1-04)
Jersey Care Inquiry (Supporting and Protecting Children) (CSP1-1-01, CSP1-1-02, CSP1-1-03, CSP1-1-04)
Policy/Legislation service delivery (CSP1-1-01, CSP1-1-02, CSP1-1-03, CSP1-1-04)
Redress Scheme (CSP1-1-05)
Involving and engaging children (CSP1-3-01)

I am pleased to announce that the Redress Scheme has been successfully launched on the 1st of July 2019 and I am more than happy to provide the panel with an update during the hearing, or privately if you prefer due to the sensitive nature of the scheme.

I am heavily involved in the actions listed below, it is my understanding that the analysis of the links between action and projects have been provided to you centrally.

- Children's Services Improvement Plan
- High quality placements for children
- Entitlement for children in care
- Right Help, Right Time
- Progress policy and legislative change to underpin long-term reform
- Bring forward primary legislation for indirect incorporation of the UNCRC
- Support and respond to the Children's Commissioner
- Enhance availability of advocacy support
- Implement the Youth Connects Project

I can advise that I have been involved in the in the capital projects listed in your letter, these include the Discrimination Law, Safeguarding and regulation of care and Children's Residential Homes. I have also been involved in the discussions regarding the North of Town Youth Centre, which is progressing positively. I received briefings from CYPES officers before the bids were submitted for potential inclusion in the Government Plan.

I have asked my Private Secretary to arrange a briefing between yourself and senior officers within CYPES to ensure the public hearing is as productive as possible and that you have all the information your panel requires.

If you need anything further to assist in the panels research please let me know, I look forward to meeting with you at the hearing on the 3rd October 2019.

Yours sincerely



Senator Sam Mézec
Minister for Children and Housing

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