Deputy Chief Minister | Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture



Deputy Kirsten Morel

Chair of Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel

By email

28 January 2020

Dear Kirsten,

Thank you for your letter of 18 December and the request for updates, which are as follows:

Retail Strategy

As you are aware, an initial draft of the strategy was prepared last summer and, on the advice of an officer working group, we agreed that further, more detailed work was needed before the proposals could be finalised. At that stage, staff with the necessary expertise were not available to progress the project. Additional resource was sought to review the evidence base on file and to produce reworked proposals. I am pleased to confirm that resource has now been allocated and I now expect to receive a final draft strategy by the end of March 2020.

Licensing Law

The Chief Minister and I are due to meet the new Bailiff and Attorney General next month to discuss the current position with regard to oversight of licensing. The intention is to initially seek their views before asking the Council of Ministers to consider a proposal to establish a small task and finish group of Ministers to progress this issue.

Department restructure

We will announce any proposed departmental changes in due course, once discussions are

complete, and only after we have first notified any employees who are affected by the changes. These changes should result in a properly resourced department capable of delivering our economic priorities in line with the Government Plan.

Yours sincerely,

Senator Lyndon Farnham

With Kind regards

Deputy Chief Minister

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