

States Greffe: Scrutiny

Deputy Susie Pinel Minister for Treasury & Resources

By email

18th May 2021

Dear Minister

Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

COVID 19 Response and Recover Review: Fiscal Stimulus Fund - Public Hearing

The Panel writes in response to your letter of the 12 May 2021 in which you indicated that, in your view, a public hearing was not required in relation to the scrutiny of the Fiscal Stimulus Fund (the Fund) as sufficient information had been provided to the Panel.

The Panel is aware you are unable to publicly discuss specifics of the business cases and applications to the Fund. However, it is the view of the Panel that the overarching elements of the Fund should be openly discussed and there should be an opportunity to allow for transparency and clarification regarding the intended use of public finances. The Panel are keen to understand the criteria in relation to the selection of projects, purpose of the Fund and administration of the Fund as well as the composition of the Fiscal Stimulus Oversight Group (the FSOG). The Panel has taken an active role in progressing scrutiny of the Fund, and believes that having a two-way conversation with you as Minister, in a public setting, will allow for this to continue in an open and timely manner.

Therefore, the Panel asks that you attend a public hearing on Thursday 20th May 2021 from 11.30 to 13.30. It is the intention of the Panel that the public hearing will be in person and will last 45 minutes. The remaining 45 minutes of the hearing will be completed in private in order that confidential information can be discussed and enable the Panel to provide recommendations by the 24th May 2021, as requested. The Panel wishes to remind the Minister of its power to issue summonses in accordance with the States of Jersey (Powers, Privileges and Immunities) (Jersey) Regulations 2006 should the Minister continue not to accept attendance at the Public Hearing.

The Panel would be appreciative if officers could revert to make the necessary arrangements as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

Senator Kristina Moore Chair, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel