
STATES OF JERSEY



BUDGET TRANSFERS OF PLANNED UNDERSPENDS IN 2024 TO THE CENTRAL RESERVE

Presented to the States on 3rd December 2024
by the Minister for Treasury and Resources

STATES GREFFE

REPORT

1. Purpose of Report

To enable the Minister for Treasury and Resources to apply her powers under the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 to transfer unspent amounts to the Central Reserve.

2. Background

On 29 November 2024, the States Assembly approved the Budget 2025-28. This Ministerial Decision transfers to the Central Reserve planned underspends on project and revenue growth budgets. The relevant projects have already had equivalent funds carried forward into future years via the Budget 2025-28. The Central Reserve can then be used to address 2024 cost pressures, some of which were identified in the Budget, for example in health care.

As these amounts are not required in 2024, the proposed transfer does not impact on delivery.

Update to project cashflow requirements

Each year, the Budget takes into account changes to project timescales and updates the profile of funding for projects to ensure that funds are available in the years that they are required. As part of this process, funds forecast not to be spent in 2024 were reprofiled into the future financial years where they will now be needed.

Now that the Budget 2025-28 has been approved by the States Assembly, the 2024 approvals will be reduced to reflect the planned underspends. This does not change the total amount of money available for each project, and does not impact delivery as the updated profile reflects when spend is planned.

Table 1 below sets out the planned underspends against 2024 approval by project Head of Expenditure.

Table 1 – Planned underspends to 2024 project budgets, carried forward to future years

Project Name	Sponsoring Dept	Amount (£)
Ambulance, Fire & Rescue Headquarters	JHA	600,000
Army and Sea Cadets Headquarters	JHA	90,000
Automatic Electoral Registration	DTS	310,000
Combined Control Room	JHA	450,000
Court Digitisation	JG	937,000
Dewberry House - Sexual Assault Referral Centre	SoJP	1,565,000
Firearms Range	SoJP	906,000
Learning Difficulties - Specialist Accommodation	HCS	2,837,000
Liquid Waste Key Infrastructure	I&E	1,514,000
Mont a' L'Abbe Secondary	CYPES	732,000
Oakfield and Fort Regent Decant	I&E	1,000,000
Probation/Prison Offender Case Management	PRO	425,000
Revenue Transformation Programme (Phase 4)	T&E	1,470,000
Upgrades to CYPES Estates	CYPES	4,937,000
	Total	17,773,000

Reprioritisation of growth to support CSP investment

One of the mechanisms in Budget 2025-28 for funding the necessary CSP investment for 2025 onwards was the reprioritisation of a small proportion of previous growth in Government Plan 2024-27. These decreases are not directly tied to individual schemes so departments may elect to fund the reduction through reprioritisation elsewhere within the department.

As set out in Table 2, a total of up to £3.1 million (6%) of the growth in Government Plan 2024-27 will be transferred to the Central Reserve.

Table 2 – Revised revenue budgets for growth expenditure forecasts

Head of Expenditure	2024 Approved £	2024 Underspend (Up to) £	2024 Revised £
Cabinet Office	4,696,000	(788,000)	3,908,000
Children, Young People, Education & Skills	4,700,000	(935,000)	3,765,000
Customer and Local Services	1,642,000	(227,000)	1,415,000
Health & Community Services	21,075,000	-	21,075,000
Infrastructure	1,516,000	(117,000)	1,399,000
Environment	300,000	(60,000)	240,000
Justice and Home Affairs	1,994,000	(90,000)	1,904,000
States of Jersey Police	237,000	(47,000)	190,000
External Relations	134,000	(27,000)	107,000
Department for the Economy	5,250,000	(220,000)	5,030,000
Financial Services	1,496,000	(287,000)	1,209,000
Treasury and Exchequer	5,976,000	(335,000)	5,641,000
Non-Ministerial	2,161,000	-	2,161,000
Total	51,177,000	(3,133,000)	48,044,000

3. Recommendation

The Minister is recommended to approve the following allocations, to ensure sufficient funds in place to meet the forecast overspend in HCS for 2024:

- a transfer of up to £17.8 million from various projects heads of expenditure in 2024, as set out in Table 1, to the Central Reserve (General Reserve) Head of Expenditure to bring budgets into line with actual cashflow requirements
- a transfer of up to £3.1 million from various revenue heads of expenditure in 2024, as set out in Table 2, to the Central Reserve (General Reserve) Head of Expenditure.

4. Reason for Decision

Article 18(1)(a) of the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 states that a specified amount appropriated for one head of expenditure may, with the approval of the Minister for Treasury and Resources, be used for the purposes of another head of expenditure that is set out in the government plan.

Article 18(4) of the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 states that the Minister shall give the States Assembly at least 4 weeks' notice before an amount is transferred under paragraph (1)(a).

Article 18(5) of the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 states that if a direction under this Article would affect a head of expenditure that relates to the responsibilities of any Minister, that Minister must be consulted before the direction is made. The relevant Ministers have been consulted and agreed the transfers as part of the development of the Budget 2025-28.

5. Resource Implications

In 2024, various project heads of expenditure will decrease by up to £17,773,000 in line with Table 1 in this report and various revenue heads of expenditure will decrease by up to £3,133,000 in line with Table 2 in this report. The Central Reserve (General Reserve) Head of Expenditure will increase by up to £20,906,000.