2025.02.25

3.13 Deputy I. Gardiner of St. Helier North of the Chief Minister regarding an overall Government I.T. strategy (OQ.49/2025):

Thank you. Back to the question. Will the Chief Minister provide detail on what progress, if any, has been made to provide an overall Government I.T. (information technology) strategy, and advise when it will be finalised?

Deputy L.J. Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter (The Chief Minister):

An overarching I.T. strategy for the Government is under development and due to be finalised later this year; June 2025 is the estimated completion. The project has taken on board the groundwork of previous draft I.T. strategies - started by Deputy Wickenden and then worked on further by Deputy Curtis - and refocused primarily on what could be referred to as fixing the basics - getting the basics right - which is what we need to do in our I.T. estate. The aim of this work is to ensure we have a robust I.T. infrastructure and consistent processes to underpin our various I.T. systems. This will not only improve consistency and efficiency but it will also help to reduce and/or mitigate risk. The workstreams include focus on I.T. networks, I.T. applications, cloud and data centres, artificial intelligence and the way we use and manage data. Once completed, the strategy will guide key decisions and future investment. The project has been progressing well and last month the Digital Services team started consulting local digital companies operating in the Island.

3.13.1   Deputy I. Gardiner:

I am grateful for the Chief Minister for a commitment that the strategy will be published this year and the details of the strategy are welcome. Would the Chief Minister advise if the strategy with all prioritisation will be published in time for the Budget debate, so we can see alignments between strategy and prioritisation and what we will have in the Budget for the next year?

Deputy L.J. Farnham:

Absolutely, yes.