

From: Andrew Syvret <andrew@seajersey.com>

Sent: 13 November 2022 19:08

To: Scrutiny Communications <Scrutiny@gov.je>

Subject: Government Plan 2023 - 2026 Review ~ Rural Initiative Scheme

Dear Scrutiny Panel,

Reference the proposed investment of £2.8 million over the next four years in the Rural Initiative Scheme to support the agriculture industry.

Given the fresh food security issues we face as an insular population ~ it is surely axiomatic that such expenditure is essential. Additionally, with the dramatic losses observed in Jersey's biodiversity ~ advocacy must be targeted at rural initiatives that improve soil & water quality, restore damaged habitats & create new ones.

The sum in question seems relatively small given budgets discussed elsewhere in the Government Plan. With nutrition critically linked to health & wellbeing, as an island we should be encouraging ethical growers of every size & ambition as an utmost priority.

Hoping my brief comment is of some utility.

Thanks & kind regards,

Andrew