STATES OF JERSEY



TRANSFERS BETWEEN HEADS OF EXPENDITURE UNDER THE PUBLIC FINANCES (JERSEY) LAW 2019: ARTICLE 18 – 4TH MARCH 2021

Presented to the States on 12th March 2021 by the Minister for Treasury and Resources

STATES GREFFE

2021 R.36

REPORT

Decision(s): Under Article 18(4) of the <u>Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019</u> (the Law), the Minister for Treasury and Resources hereby notifies the States, and having consulted with any relevant Minister under Article 18(5) of the Law; that he/she has agreed to the following –

Transfers between Heads of Expenditure under Article 18 of the Law

MD-TR-	Department			
Ref.	From –	To –	£	Funding of –
2021- 0022	Chief Operating Office	Infrastructure, Housing and Environment	56,000	Geospatial Information System budget

After the expiry of 4 weeks following the presentation to the States of these transfers, the Minister hereby authorises the Treasurer of the States to action the transfers outlined in the table above.

Background

In 2014, the Mapping Services Team moved into the newly formed Information Management Team within the Information Services Department. The transfer of responsibilities and budgets was primarily aimed at allowing the address file to be managed as corporate data asset.

However, over the last 6 years this function has experienced a higher than average senior management turnover and an increased focus on data protection and cyber security. This has resulted in the mapping services team acting independently from the rest of the function and without the strategic direction required, the development of mapping services has not been prioritised.

As part of transformation, a new target operating model for the Modernisation & Digital Department was created. This raised questions as to where the mapping services function (GIS) should sit under the new organisational structure. GIS is currently underutilised and there is a lack of awareness in GOJ about the service and role of the function.

A GIS Strategy for the Government of Jersey is currently being developed which will enable the team and GIS to reach its full potential and increase efficiencies across GOJ. Most users and creators of GIS are based in IHE so there is already knowledge of the function, moving GIS into IHE will mean it can be prioritised, developed, and supported correctly.

The budget is made up of an income budget of £131,000 from Royalties, and a corresponding expenditure budget of £75,000.

Recommendation

The Minister is recommended to approve the net income budget transfer of £56,000 (made up of an income budget of £131,000 and an expenditure budget of £75,000) from the Chief Operating Office (COO) to Infrastructure, Housing and the Environment (IHE), representing the budget for the Geospatial Information System.

Reasons 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 Minister has been consulted.

Resource Implications

The IHE revenue head of expenditure to decrease by £56,000 and the COO revenue head of expenditure to increase by an identical amount.

This decision does not change the total amount of expenditure approved by the States in the Government Plan 2021-2024 and the transfer will be reflected in the next Government Plan 2022-2025 cash limits.

Further information on these decisions can be found on www.gov.je under the following Ministerial Decision references –

MD-TR-2021-0022

which were signed on 5th March 2021.