

States Greffe

Deputy Lyndon Farnham Chief Minister

BY EMAIL

29th January 2025

Dear Chief Minister

Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Freedom of Information Law and Legislative Programme

Freedom of Information Law and Function

At the meeting of the Panel yesterday, the function of Freedom of Information in Jersey and recent Government communications in relation to potential considerations to amend the Law were discussed.

Our Officer has already been in contact with your Officers to request a briefing from the Freedom of Information Team on the Freedom of Information Law, the function of Freedom of Information in Jersey, the Governments obligations and responsibilities under the Law and its delivery thereof. However, in the interim, the Panel also requests to receive the following information:

- An overview of any discussions and considerations for amending the Freedom of Information Law and function in Jersey.
- The scope and timeline for amending the Freedom of Information Law and function.
- An overview of the delivery process followed for Freedom of Information requests.
- An overview of any proactive measures being taken by Government to improve the efficiency of the process, particularly where multiple Freedom of Information requests seeking the same information are received.
- An overview on whether Government automates data compilation on the back of previous Freedom of Information requests that it receives.

Legislative Programme 2025-2026

The Panel has noted the following legislation under your responsibility for lodging in 2025-2026, which has been confirmed in a letter to the Scrutiny Liaison Committee. Please could you provide the scope, any progress update and timeline of lodging for these. Please can you also confirm what legislation and policy workstreams you anticipate to lodge and bring forward during 2025.

Chief Minister

Powers of Attorney (Jersey) Law 1995
Comptroller & Auditor General (Jersey) Law 2014
Control of Housing & Work Law Regulations

The Panel would appreciate to receive a formal written response detailing this information by no later than **Wednesday** 5th **February 2025** and for the briefing from the Freedom of Information Team to be confirmed as soon as possible. Please be aware that it is the Panel's intention to publish the response it receives on the States Assembly website.

Yours Sincerely

Deputy Helen Miles

Chair

Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

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