Minister for Treasury and Resources



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Deputy H Miles Chair, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

BY EMAIL

24 March 2025

Dear Chair

Review of the Memoranda of Understanding for States Owned Entities – Follow Up

Thank you for your letter dated 12 March 2025.

Your letter refers to the Government's review of the Memoranda of Understanding ("MoUs"). In reality this is a review being conducted by me and my department. As the Minister for Treasury & Resources with shareholder responsibility for the States Owned Entities ("SOEs"), it is my duty to make informed decisions in the best interest of the public, whilst the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel plays a vital role in ensuring accountability. I hold responsibility for setting policy direction, with your Panel holding the important function of reviewing and scrutinising policies, rather than participating in their formulation.

As previously indicated, I would welcome feedback on how the current MOUs can be enhanced at this stage and any such feedback will be taken into consideration as part of my ongoing review. Still, it is neither appropriate nor practical for the Panel to be a negotiating party to these MoUs. Given the scale of the ongoing work, it would similarly be impractical and inappropriate to consider further comments throughout the process, beyond commentary on the current MoUs.

The Panel will receive the benefit of a private briefing on the final drafts in advance of them being presented for approval to the SOE Boards.

I acknowledge that Scrutiny was involved historically and provided helpful feedback on the formulation of the current MoUs. On that occasion the Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel reviewed the final drafts rather than being involved during the drafting stage.

Yours sincerely

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Deputy Elaine Millar Minister for Treasury and Resources

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