



Deputy Kirsten Morel  
Minister for Sustainable Economic Development

### **BY EMAIL**

16<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Minister,

### **Transition to Living Wage and BBSP**

The Panel is grateful for the recent briefing provided by officers outlining the Better Business Support Package (BBSP) and discussing the transition to living wage. Further information and periodic briefings were offered and our officer will liaise in due course.

There remain four main areas that the Panel would value written information at this stage:

#### **Business impact**

Will the transition to living wage result in any job losses or business failures and what is the impact of this on the economy and will this impact differ based on business size or sector of operation?

Have impacts been forecasted at a point in time or forecast over 12, 24 36 or 60 months?

#### **Migration**

What is the basis of the modelling used in economic calculations and does it show whether we need more skilled migration or less and in which areas of the economy?

What modelling has been done to demonstrate the Island can handle this level of turnover in the economy?

How much does it cost the economy to employ the scale of temporary / migrant workers economy each year on a living wage?

#### **Further Impact**

What change will be seen to the cost of housing, goods and services as a direct consequence of introducing a living wage to the islands economy?

What impact will this having on job opportunities and housing availability for people living in the Island now and over the next 5 years?

Has the cost of rent been factored into the calculations to avoid people entering into "in work" poverty?

## Better Business Support Package

We are aware that, since our briefing, a member of the Assembly has forwarded correspondence requesting the publication of the recipients of funding through the BBSP and that this has been the subject of Oral Questions. **The Panel agrees that it is reasonable to expect that such a publication takes place to aid in transparency of these grants and would ask that steps are taken to ensure this information is published in an appropriate way.**

Could you confirm if consent of those applying to the BBSP for information to be shared has been included within terms of their application, and if not, why not. Furthermore, could you please outline if any concerns regarding publication have specifically been raised by applicants?

The Panel would also be grateful if you would highlight any support that is offered to businesses that have been operating for a shorter period of time, noting that the Skills, Productivity and Visitor Economy Development grants are only available to those operating for 6 or 18 months depending on the level of grants applied for.

Similarly, the Panel would be grateful if you could identify any support that will be offered to businesses that have recently recruited employees or had been planning to recruit prior to the announcement of the criteria, noting the 3-month employment requirement.

We would be grateful if you could respond no later than Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025 in line with the 5 working days approved for responses between Scrutiny Panels and Ministers.

If you have any questions regarding this or our work in general, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please note that unless otherwise stated, all letters will be uploaded to the Scrutiny website as a matter of course.

Yours sincerely,



Deputy Montfort Tadier  
**Chair**  
**Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel**