

Ministerial Offices | Government of Jersey | Union Street
Jersey | St Helier | JE2 3DN

By email

27th February 2025

Dear Chair,

Legislative Programme

Thank you for your letter of 17th February, in which you ask for an update on the Department's legislative programme for 2025. I have set out updates to each of these below:

The timings included in the below are indicative and contingent on the availability of resources from the Legislative Drafting Office.

Tourism Order

Further to the amendments made to the Tourism (General Provisions) Jersey Order 1990 in March of last year, I intend to bring forward a series of further updates to this Order in 2025 to lower barriers to business and create greater flexibility for developments and investment in our visitor economy.

Law drafting instructions will shortly be prepared to amend the Order and I will of course arrange for these to be shared with the Panel in due course.

Events Law

Following the renewal of the [Unlawful Public Entertainments Regulations](#) in 2024, work is underway to design, draft and lodge a bespoke Events Law for the Island. This has involved a series of policy workshops with key stakeholders both inside and outside of Government and law drafting instructions are currently being prepared for submission in Q1 of this year.

Although law drafting time has not yet been allocated, the Panel will be aware that I have committed to having the Primary Legislation in place by the end of this term with any required subordinate regulations ready to be lodged in late 2026.

Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974

The Panel will be aware that a [public consultation](#) on proposed changes to the Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974 took place between December 2024 and the end of January. Following this, work is now underway to finalise the law drafting instructions which will be submitted in March after further engagement with key stakeholders.

It is anticipated that these changes will also be accompanied by consequential amendments to the Island's Gambling Legislation, if law drafting resource is available, but it should be noted that the legislative framework for alcohol and gambling will remain separate.

Law drafting time has not yet been allocated for these changes and so a definitive timeline cannot be provided but it is my expectation that the draft amendments should be in a mature form by the end of 2025.

Cyber Security Law

Extensive public consultation on the draft law was held March-April 2024. Following the review of the consultation feedback and input from ELT members, updated drafting instructions were submitted to Law Drafters early November 2024. Once Officers have received and reviewed the amended draft, Officers expect a final drafting round will be needed before the legislation is ready to lodge.

It was hoped that this project would be completed and the law ready to lodge before July 2025. This project has however been graded as “amber” within the Government’s Legislative Programme which means law drafting time in 2025 is contingent on available law drafters during the year. Therefore, a predicted lodging time cannot be provided at this stage, but I will be seeking to ensure that this project is re-prioritised by the Legislative Drafting Office and completed as soon as possible.

Competition (Jersey) Law 2005 Amendments

Following the 2023 consultation on proposed changes to the Competition (Jersey) Law 2005 (MD-ETS-2023-56), and the 2024 consultation on the Draft Competition (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (MD-SED-2024-722) the Minister is now making the final preparations for lodging with a view to be debated by the States Assembly in the first half of 2025.

The Draft Law, in particular, focusses on enhancing the operation of the Island’s mergers and acquisitions regime, improving the JCRA’s ability to conduct market studies in a wide range of economic sectors and supporting efficient and effective enforcement in certain cases by enabling the JCRA to accept legally binding ‘commitments’ from businesses regarding their future conduct to address any competition issues.

Consumer Protection (Unfair Practices) (Jersey) Law 2018 amendments

Further to my letter of 6th December 2024, work is underway to amend the Consumer Protection (Unfair Practices) (Jersey) Law 2018 to introduce a statutory requirement for Estate Agents to be required to be a member of an Approved Redress Scheme.

The law drafting for this work is due to be completed in Spring this year with a public consultation to follow. I hope to lodge the proposed Regulations following the Summer Recess and to be debated by the Assembly in Q3 to Q4 2025.

Amendments to Agricultural Loans Regs

Further updates to the [Agricultural \(Loans\) \(Jersey\) Regulations 1974](#) are being prepared with Law Drafting Instructions expected to be approved in March 2025. These further changes will seek to extend eligibility for the Agricultural Loans Scheme to fishing businesses, provide for flexible interest rates on loans provided by the scheme and allow for additional flexibility in the security arrangements such as the use of a guarantor.

As law drafting time has not yet been allocated for these changes a definitive timeline cannot be provided but it is my intention to have these changes brought before the Assembly for consideration in the second half of 2025.

Heritage (Jersey) Law

The draft law is now in a near final form and due to be lodged before the 2025 summer recess.

The necessary subordinate legislation has been developed alongside the new primary law and, taken together, will provide clarity on the technical definitions of treasure troves and the crowns customary rights.

A public consultation is planned for Q2 2025 and the legislation will then be lodged for consideration by the States Assembly.

Public Records (Jersey) Law 2002

The Panel will be aware that initial law drafting instructions were submitted in May 2023 to begin development of amendments to the Public Records Law. These were progressed through 2024 and are now in a final form. My intention is to lodge these changes in Q1 2025.

Data Protection Updates

Amendments to the Data Protection Authority (Jersey) Law 2018 to the Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2018 are being considered and fall into two categories:

- Minor amends based on operational feedback over the last 7 years from the Information Commissioner and;
- Providing the Information Commissioner with additional powers to act on behalf of a Jersey Data Subject to request the temporary removal of 'harmful content' from digital platforms or to request internet service providers to block certain domain names, URLs or IP addresses, whilst the Jersey Office of the Information Commission conclude their investigations.

Drafting instructions are expected to be issued by early April 2025, based on feedback and input from the Information Commissioner. As law drafting time has not yet been allocated for these changes a definitive timeline cannot be provided at this stage.

I hope the above information is helpful for the Panel's work this year and would be pleased to arrange a further briefing on any items of interest.

Yours sincerely,



Deputy Kirsten Morel

Minister for Sustainable Economic Development