



States Greffe

Deputy Tom Binet, Minister for Health and Social Services

BY EMAIL

22nd May 2025

Dear Minister,

Assisted Dying Review Panel: Timeline

The Panel is grateful for the information provided to the Health and Social Security Panel during its Public Quarterly Hearing on 20th May.

The Panel understands that changes to the estimated timeframe have occurred due to delays during the legislative drafting process. The Panel would be grateful to ascertain what level of prioritisation this law has been given; is there is a dedicated Law Drafter working on this legislation full-time and if so, has this always been the case? Have there been any changes to the level of resource dedicated to the law drafting, and if so, what and why did changes occur?

The Panel notes that you are aiming for the Assisted Dying Legislation to be lodged in September 2025, to be debated on either the 11th or 25th November, allowing the Panel 9 weeks to carry out a review of the Legislation. The Panel have considered this timeframe and have concluded that 9 weeks will likely not allow sufficient time for the appropriate and necessary scrutiny for legislation of this prominence.

The Panel would like to reiterate the requirement for thorough Scrutiny to take place regarding such substantial legislation - a process which must be factored into Ministers' time frames from the outset. For legislation of this complexity and significance, the Panel would expect to allocate a *minimum* of 12 weeks to review and produce a thorough and detailed report that will assist Assembly Members in their deliberations.

Should you lodge in September, factoring the required number of weeks the Panel will need to review the legislation adequately, the debate would need to take place during the December 2025 States Sitting. However, the Panel presumes that you are minded to avoid that particular States Sitting. In order to prevent the debate needing to be delayed to February 2025, should the Panel determine it necessary to call the Legislation in, whilst we appreciate there is limited time available to make significant changes, we would urge you to consider lodging the Legislation by the end of July 2025, at the latest.

As you will be aware, the Panel has noted on numerous occasions the value in our Officers working together to maintain an open line of communication and ensure documentation and updates are delivered in a timely manner. The Panel would like to thank you and your Officers

for the continued communication and seek assurance that this will be sustained until the Draft Legislation is debated.

The Panel would be grateful if you could provide responses to the above questions, by no later than **29th May 2025**.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Louise Doublet', written in a cursive style.

Deputy Louise Doublet
Chair
Assisted Dying Review Panel