

Chief Minister



19-21 Broad Street | St Helier  
Jersey | JE2 4WE

Deputy Inna Gardiner  
Chair, PAC

BY EMAIL

9 January 2021

Dear Chair,

### **CEO NED – Response to Media Questions**

As requested, please find attached a copy of the timeline relating to the response to media questions issued on 27<sup>th</sup> November, concerning the Chief Executive's Non-Executive Directorship with NewRiver, which was commissioned at my request. I have also attached a more general timeline of events which contains key media coverage, as well as significant meeting dates, which I hope you will find useful.

For completeness, we have also been looking at procedures involving press releases and press communications. Previously, Ministerial approval for media releases was obtained generally where there was an attributable quote from a Minister. I have made it clear to officials that this did not provide enough certainty, and nor was it sufficiently robust as a process against misunderstandings in how Government policy was communicated.

Whilst the Government releases lots of information daily, and across multiple platforms, Ministers must have confidence that items concerning them or their responsibilities are being properly communicated.

The approach is therefore being strengthened, involving Ministers and officials earlier, allowing for a clearer audit trail and approval process.

Please be aware that we have also received a Freedom of Information ("FOI") request in relation to this matter and I will be providing the whole of this pack in response to the FOI request. Should you wish to discuss this with me, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

With apologies for the delay in getting this to you and I very much wish you a happy new year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John Le Fondré".

**Senator John Le Fondré**  
Chief Minister