

Council of Ministers

(53rd Meeting)

Business conducted via electronic mail

25th September 2025**Part A (Non-Exempt)**

All members were present, with the exception of Deputy C.F. Labey of Grouville and St. Martin, Minister for International Development and Deputy S.Y. Mézec of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing, from whom apologies had been received.

Deputy L.J. Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Chief Minister
 Connétable R. Vibert of St. Peter, Minister for Children and Families
 Connétable A.N. Jehan of St. John, Minister for Infrastructure
 Deputy S.G. Luce of Grouville and St. Martin, Minister for the Environment (for item A1 only)
 Deputy K.F. Morel of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Minister for Sustainable Economic Development (for item A1 only)
 Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat of St. Helier North, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs
 Deputy R.J. Ward of St. Helier Central, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning
 Deputy I.J. Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Minister for External Relations (for item A1 only)
 Deputy L.V. Feltham of St. Helier Central, Minister for Social Security (for item A2 only)
 Deputy M.E. Millar of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Minister for Treasury and Resources (for item A1 only)
 Deputy T.J.A. Binet of St. Saviour, Minister for Health and Social Services

In attendance -

A. Thorne, Research and Administration Officer – Business and Governance, Ministerial Office
 T. Mourant, Private Secretary to the Chief Minister
 K.L. Slack, Senior Secretariat Officer, States Greffe

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A only.

Proposed
 Budget
 (Government
 Plan) 2026-29
 – stamp duty
 rate.

A1. The Council, with reference to its Minute No. B3 of 2nd September 2025, recalled that it had agreed in principle the proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-29 and had noted that further discussions would take place in order to finalise the details of the same.

It was further recalled that, in the Government Plan 2023-2026, the Council, as previously constituted, had introduced a stamp duty rate of 3 per cent above the normal rate for buy-to-let investments, holiday homes and second homes, with effect from 1st January 2023. This had followed the adoption by the States Assembly of an amendment to the Government Plan 2022 (P.97/2022 referred), by the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel, as previously constituted, with a view to reducing excess

demand in the Island's housing market.

Noting that the housing market had changed significantly since the introduction of the 3 per cent stamp duty surcharge, the Council accordingly, agreed a modest reduction to 2 per cent for a period of one year and requested officers to arrange for this to be reflected within the Budget.

Proposed
Budget
(Government
Plan) 2026-29:
Addendum –
Children's
Rights Impact
Assessments.

A2. The Council, with reference to its Minute No. B3 of 2nd September 2025, recalled that it had lodged the proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-29 (the Budget) '*au Greffe*' on 16th September 2025 (P.70/2025 referred) and received and noted a consolidated addendum thereto.

The Council was mindful that, in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 2 of the Children (Convention Rights) (Jersey) Law 2022, any proposition lodging a Government Plan was exempted from the requirement to prepare a Children's Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA) but the CRIA process had, nevertheless, been followed for a number of specific projects, as set out in the report to the addendum. Whilst some proposals had only been the subject of screening and had not identified any impacts on children's rights, a full CRIA had been undertaken in relation to others.

The Council accordingly approved the addendum to the Budget and requested officers to arrange for it to be lodged for consideration by the States Assembly at the same time as P.70/2025.