

2024 Business Plan – Ministry for External Relations

Chief Officer: Kate Nutt

Minister(s): Deputy Ian Gorst; Deputy Carolyn Labey; Deputy Elaine Millar; Deputy Moz Scott

Information on department purpose, context and structure can be found on gov.je: [External Relations \(gov.je\)](#)

Information on department finances and resources can be found in the Government Plan Annex: [Government plan](#)

Key Objectives

Our key objectives for 2024 are:

Council of Ministers agreement to, and delivery of, the Common Policy for External Relations

The Common Policy for External Relations (CPER) sets out, in high level terms, the aims and objectives of each Council of Ministers for their term of office in respect of Jersey's international relations. The CPER is primarily delivered by the Minister for External Relations and Chief Minister concurrently, in conjunction with Ministers and lead departments in support of objectives in the Common Strategic Policy (CSP).

As outlined in the States of Jersey Law 2005, the CPER should be agreed by the Council of Ministers (CoM) and, following the appointment of the Chief Minister and CoM in January, the CPER has been reviewed and a small number of factual revisions suggested.

How will we deliver this?

Proactive and extensive programme of engagement with the UK, EU, and global stakeholders across full range of policy portfolios as outlined below and, where relevant, in departmental business plans and cross-departmental strategies led by other departments such as the Future Economy Programme (FEP) and Carbon Neutral Roadmap (including work on the offshore wind farm initiative).

How will we measure this?

CPER amended for accuracy, and Council of Ministers agreement and sign-off – July.
Annual review of delivery against objectives in Annual Report and Accounts.

UK Engagement

Continue to build positive, long-term relationships with UK stakeholders, with particular focus on UK Government and Parliamentarians, to ensure understanding of Jersey's constitutional position, our reputation as a high-quality, well-regulated finance centre that contributes positively to the UK economy, and to assist in the delivery of domestic objectives in line with departmental commitments in the CSP.

How will we deliver this?

Through our Jersey London Office and International Trade team, we will:

- Engage regularly with UK Ministers and cross-party parliamentarians to provide clarity on Jersey's constitutional status and increase understanding of the mutually beneficial nature of our relationship, with particular focus on the outcome of the UK General Election.

- Work with cross-Government colleagues to understand domestic policy challenges, supporting engagement with UK Government departments to deliver optimum outcomes, and to prepare for the 2026 Trade and Cooperation Agreement review.
- Engage with the UK Department for Business and Trade at both official and Ministerial level to represent Jersey interests in the UK's ongoing international trade agenda.

How will we measure this?

- Comprehensive analysis of UK political manifestos, enabling GoJ to identify areas of opportunity and potential risk from an incoming UK Government.
- Extensive programme of inbound and outbound visits, hosting of events and attendance at key fora, demonstrating high levels of access and visibility with a new UK Government, UK Ministers and Parliamentarians, relevant Committees and key departments in Whitehall.
- Government of Jersey departments engaged in delivery of the CPER, with evidence of policy objectives being supported and informed by international engagement.
- Cross-government preparation for 2026 TCA review initiated.
- Accession to UK-negotiated trade deals, with associated programmes of domestic reform in key areas to assure compliance (alongside the economy team on areas such as Intellectual Property), with mutually-agreed timetable for services inclusion.
- Programme of engagement with UK Government departments to raise and resolve export barriers as identified by Jersey businesses.
- Engagement with four UK trade events to expand stakeholder networks and ability to lobby and influence in respect of Jersey's reputation and economy.

Island Outcomes

Jobs and Productivity Growth; Business Environment; Natural Environment.

France

Continue to grow and improve Jersey's relations with regional French authorities and with the national government in Paris, to maximise opportunities for collaboration across areas such as trade, tourism, energy, connectivity, security, and to increase understanding of Jersey across an influential EU Member State.

How will we deliver this?

Through the work of the Bureau des Iles Anglo-Normandes (BIAN) and the European Relations team, we will:

- Deliver commitments in our regional Partnership Agreements, including Annual regional summits.
- Undertake regular political meetings with national and regional stakeholders through engagement in France, Jersey and London.
- Lead the cross-government France Working Group to ensure joined-up delivery on French engagement, with the aim of building awareness and understanding of the island's wide relationship with France.
- Continue to utilise the Jersey 'hot desk' at the British Embassy in Paris on a regular basis and expand our network there, including organising Ministerial visits, officer level engagement, and events such as political level receptions or cultural initiatives.
- Support Government of Jersey departments in the development of the communications strategy for an offshore wind farm and in communicating external messaging around the

Marine Spatial Plan, in support of climate change, energy resilience and cost of living objectives.

How will we measure this?

- Programme of engagement with key French interlocutors at national and regional level in place, with evidence of high levels of access and influence on key areas of policy.
- With colleagues in External Relations' Brussels office and the Marine Resources team, conclude discussions on the feasibility of a Border Inspection Post in Granville.
- Lead delivery of the international engagement elements of the offshore wind strategy.
- Deliver successful regional French summits to facilitate implementation of regional Partnership Agreements and support in forwarding specific concerns to higher (Ministerial) level within the French government.
- Facilitate a renewed Emergency Cooperation Service Level Agreement.
- Effective support to colleagues in JHA in reviewing the ID card pilot scheme (due to end on 30 September 2024) through UK/French engagement.
- Alongside Economy and Jersey Business colleagues, and aligned to the Enabling Business report, the International Trade team will collaboratively develop new exporting and profile-raising opportunities, as well as working to address barriers to exporting to France, for pursuit with the UK and French Governments.

Island Outcomes

Safety and Security; Vibrant and Inclusive Community; Jobs and Productivity Growth; Business Environment; Natural Environment.

Europe and European Relations

Continue to develop and grow Jersey's profile and engagement with EU institutions (European Commission, Council, Parliament) as well as bilateral relationships with Member States, to ensure Jersey's relationship with the UK and Europe is understood, our linkages and contribution to Europe are respected and valued, and that we are able to engage effectively on issues of policy and regulation that impact Jersey's interests.

How will we deliver this?

Through our overseas offices in Brussels, London, and Caen and the work of the European Relations and International Trade teams, we will engage with EU institutions, build bilateral relations with Member States and other Brussels-based organisations. We will:

- Deliver a wide-ranging programme of inbound and outbound visits with key stakeholders, including political and official-level engagement following political changes (European Parliament and national elections).
- With GoJ colleagues, develop and deliver areas for collaboration, for example on trade, education, maritime cooperation, culture, arts and heritage, and use our networks and access to help resolve any challenges or barriers to cooperation.
- Leverage the diplomatic network in London to raise Jersey's profile and to access political representatives and officials in capitals.
- Work with the financial services and tax teams to deliver effective engagement and lobbying in Brussels and EU capitals on key policy areas of Financial Services / tax / Anti Money Laundering and to promote Jersey's 'good neighbour' reputation e.g. ahead of the establishment of a new EU AML agency, and on 'non-cooperative jurisdiction' lists in Brussels and in capitals.

- Continue to foster good relations with our Crown Dependency colleagues in areas of shared mutual interest.

How will we measure this?

- At least three inbound Ambassadorial visits with European partners during 2024.
- Evidence of regular engagement with influential interlocutors in London and Brussels on key policy portfolios.
- Two Ministerial visits to Brussels engaging on priority policy areas.
- At least two outbound officer level visits to Brussels in the second half of 2024 across priority areas identified (Tax / Financial Services / Anti-Money Laundering / Trade Policy / cultural diplomacy/ broader economy)
- Tangible progress on application to Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) leading to conclusion 2025.
- Development of Flanders MOU post EU and local elections.
- Cultural engagement programme developed and delivery underway.
- Continued joint working with Guernsey and IoM on EU Tax agenda.
- Evidence of positive and cooperative relationships with the Honorary Consul network to the benefit of local communities.

Island Outcomes

Vibrant and Inclusive Community; Jobs and Productivity Growth; Business Environment

Global Relations and Multilateral

Continue to implement our Global Relations Strategy to increase Jersey's positive visibility, improve access to key decision-makers and enhance the island's connectivity in carefully selected priority jurisdictions outside the UK and EU.

How will we deliver this?

Through the work of the Global Relations' and International Trade teams we will:

- Continue to develop a pipeline of new international agreements, such as Double Taxation Agreements (DTAs), Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) and MOUs, and create scope for new forms of trade-related international agreements e.g. Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs).
- Continue to represent Jersey's interests and enhance the Island's profile by taking leadership positions - in strategic multilateral fora such as: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, World Trade Organisation, United Nations, the Commonwealth, International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and relevant areas of MONEYVAL.
- Maintain support to Revenue Jersey in its international engagement on tax.
- Support GoJ departments in exploring and pursuing membership of wider international bodies, where appropriate.
- Increase positive visibility in, and access to, our target non-UK/EU jurisdictions, including building closer relationships with Commonwealth partners.
- Support the Economy department in delivery of the FEP through our international engagement, working to promote Jersey as a jurisdiction of choice for business and investment.

- Work with Economy to deliver IP reform and explore future business opportunities that may arise.
- Work with on-island stakeholders to support wide-ranging cooperation in support of economic, skills and recruitment, cultural, climate, education, diaspora and other initiatives.

How will we measure this?

- Submit three International Agreements (DTAs, BITs, or MOUs) for domestic approval by end of 2024.
- Support finalisation of an effective treaty ratification procedure (LAP) by end of 2024.
- Create proposal for MRA model (based on Swiss model) by middle of 2025.
- Attend and participate in four Multilateral events in 2024.
- Secure compliance assessment and accession to all new WTO agreements (e.g. e-commerce) and measures (e.g. customs changes).
- Facilitate two inbound and/or outbound Ministerial visits from/to priority jurisdictions.
- Build alliances in conjunction with other Government departments to further international cooperation in two new areas, for example, in helping to address staffing and skills shortages in key industry sectors.
- Develop and launch new online diaspora initiative 'Jersey Connections', and evidence of other relevant Island Identity recommendations being progressed.

Island Outcomes

Children; Vibrant and Inclusive Community; Jobs and Productivity Growth; Business Environment.

International Compliance

Ensure Jersey continues to take a proactive and visible leadership role in supporting the global community in its response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Further, ensure effective implementation of sanctions in a timely and comprehensive way; undertaking collaborative multi-agency work as part of an effective whole-of-Island, Government-regulator- industry response. The team also supports the Director of Civil Aviation (DCA) in discharging overall responsibility for the safety of civil aviation in Jersey and its airspace.

How will we deliver this?

The International Compliance Team will:

- Deliver the effective implementation of Jersey's sanctions regime.
- Lead on Immediate Outcomes 10 and 11 for Jersey's MONEYVAL evaluation and implement the Recommended Actions from the Mutual Evaluation Report.
- Support the office of the DCA.

How will we measure this?

- Undertake at least six outreach sessions per year with the private sector and financial crime agencies.
- Publish financial sanctions notices on Jersey Gazette on the same day as changes being made to sanctioned persons' lists.
- Publish quarterly reports on the value of frozen assets reported to the Minister for External Relations under the Russia sanctions regime.
- Ensure legislation is amended to ensure swift implementation of changes to sanctions regimes.

- Ensure sufficient specialist resource available to support the Office of the DCA in preparation for the forthcoming (2025) ICAO review.

Island Outcomes

Safety and Security; Business Environment.

Service Performance Measures

Our Service Performance Measures for 2024 are:

Interactions with key decision-makers

Number of meaningful interactions* with key decision-makers**, such as Ministers, Parliamentarians, and senior government officers.

Target: 600

International and local media coverage

Pieces of neutral and positive international and local media coverage relating to the work of the Department and Minister.

Target: 200

International agreements

Number of international agreements (including Memoranda of Understanding ('MOUs'), BITS, DTAs and participation in FTAs) which have reached completion of Jersey's domestic procedure for approval.

Target: 3

International sanctions notifications

Percentage of international sanctions notifications published within one business day.

Target: 90%

**A 'meaningful' interaction is one that advances the department's objectives as defined in the Common Strategic Policy and Common Policy for External Relations. An 'interaction' must be substantial and detailed enough to discuss tangible matters.*

***A 'key decision maker' includes Ministers, Assistant Ministers, parliamentarians, senior diplomats (Ambassador to First Secretary), government officials (Deputy Director and above), senior business representatives, or anyone regularly making decisions related to Jersey's objectives with that partner.*