

Deputy Chief Minister |
Minister for Economic Development,
Tourism, Sport and Culture



8th February 2021

Richard Corrigan
Acting Director General, Economy
Government of Jersey

Dear Richard

Fixed Cost Support Scheme – Formal Instruction

Thank you for your letter of 5th February 2021 regarding the Fixed Cost Support Scheme. I have carefully considered the points you raise and confirm that I wish to proceed with implementation without further delay.

The economic damage from Covid-19 continues to create a strong case for this scheme. I acknowledge the risks highlighted in your letter but I believe there is an urgent and overriding need to provide additional support to businesses.

The additional period of closure and restrictions required since December 2020 has heightened the financial pressures and risks to businesses. Further financial support from the Government is therefore required in order to help protect businesses, livelihoods and jobs.

I would also reiterate that the Fixed Costs Support Scheme has been supported by the Competent Authorities Ministers and the Economic Recovery Political Oversight Group, as you are aware.

There is a need to provide extra support for a broad range of impacted businesses, many of which are not eligible for the Visitor Accommodation Support Scheme or the Visitor Attractions and Events Scheme. The FCSS will achieve this, alongside economic support packages already deployed by the Government.

I note that the eligible businesses are clearly specified in the Guidelines and fixed costs are clearly defined in order to reduce the likelihood of speculative claims. The cap on claims for large business groups and payment of company dividends also provide safeguards.

I am prepared to support the introduction of this scheme and therefore formally instruct you, as Accounting Officer, to implement with immediate effect.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lyndon Farnham".

Senator Lyndon Farnham
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