Chief Minister



Richard Corrigan Chief Officer Department of the Economy **By email**

4th August 2025

Dear Richard,

Battle of Flowers Events Limited

We are writing to you following a meeting with the Treasury Minister and officials on 28th July to confirm that, having carefully considered the matter, we have decided to authorise a transfer of up to £121,000 to the Battle of Flowers Events Limited.

This funding is to be transferred from the Chief Minister's Pilot Fund. In addition, as we have discussed, the Department for the Economy's £90,000 top-up grant provided in 2024 is not to be recouped in order that priority can be given to the other creditors, including the Parish of St Helier, who require payment in order to support the delivery of the 2025 event and enable Battle to continue long into the future.

We would ask that any future grants to any organiser of the Battle of Flowers event are made with this funding in mind, accounted for accordingly and deducted from future grants to the event.

We would like to thank officials for their work towards finding a solution that will enable the 2025 event to proceed in its revised format. This has helped the new organisers to put together a fresh programme in a very short space of time.

It is unfortunate that, despite the efforts of the new organisers and the grant funding already provided by the Department for the Economy, the success of the event should be imperilled due to ongoing challenges in resolving the 2024 overspend.

Having therefore considered the balance of risks and the great benefit that Battle brings to our community and visitor economy, it is our judgement that a grant to the Battle of Flowers Events Limited to contribute towards the settling of its outstanding debt is necessary in order to enable a Battle of Flowers Parade in 2025 and beyond.

We are aware that the Public Finances Manual (PFM) requires that officials are able to demonstrate that a given course of action is economic, efficient and effective before it is undertaken, and that the provision of this grant funding may not align with your PFM obligations as Accountable Officer. It is the role of Ministers to consider the wider balance of public interest and to take into consideration the broader economic and social imperatives which fall beyond the scope of the Public Finances Manual.

We therefore formally instruct that, as Accounting Officer, you take the necessary actions to proceed with the grant as soon as practicable.

In line with the usual process, this letter has been copied to the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Lyndon Farnham

Chief Minister

Deputy Kirsten Morel

John W

Minister for Sustainable Economic Development

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Chef Minnistre Gouvèrnément d'Ièrri