



# **FISCAL STIMULUS FUND**

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **How does the application process work?**

The application process is set out on the [Government website](#) and in the [proposition](#) put before the States Assembly. Applicants will need to complete the online expression of interest form, which must be sponsored by a States Body. In reality, that is likely to be a department. This will then follow an evaluation process which will include the Treasury team.

These expressions of interest will be considered by the Oversight Group and applicants will then be asked to submit a business case. All documents will be considered in stages and communicated to relevant parties as outlined in the proposition. It is intended to encourage project applications and for departments to support those applications that meet the criteria. The Oversight Group will see all documentation for applications.

### **How do I contact my sponsoring department?**

Please email [FiscalFund@gov.je](mailto:FiscalFund@gov.je) and you will be provided with the relevant contact.

### **Who are your arm's length organisations (ALO)?**

The Public Finances Manual will list the following organisations as ALOs. The list can be amended at any time by the Minister:

Digital Jersey	Bureau des Îles Anglo-Normandes
Visit Jersey Limited	Jersey Sport
Jersey Arts Trust	Jersey Arts Centre Association
Jersey Opera House	Jersey Heritage Trust
Serco (Jersey) Limited	Jersey Product Promotion Limited
Jersey Legal Information Board	Channel Islands Brussels Office
Government of Jersey London Office	Jersey Employment Trust
Jersey Finance Limited	Jersey Business Limited
Jersey Advisory and Conciliation Service	Jersey Battle of Flowers
Super League Triathlon	Association of Jersey Charities
Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society	Jersey Rugby Football Club
Jersey Consumer Council	Jersey Citizens Advice Bureau

### **What is the definition of a not-for-profit organisation?**

As an indication, bodies that are registered charities would meet the definition of a not-for-profit organisation. However, not-for-profit organisations vary greatly in size and are responsible for delivering important services to the people of Jersey. Some not for profit organisations are already in receipt of a Government grant. We would expect to receive applications for a wide range of projects through these organisations which will be sponsored by a Government department.

**What if a department wants to submit an application that can be delivered by organisations that do not meet the definition of an ALO or a not-for-profit organisation?**

If a department wishes to apply for funding that meets the criteria for fiscal stimulus then this is permitted. The delivery partner does not need to meet the definition of an ALO or a not-for-profit organisation as the grant will be given directly to the department.

**How will you ensure that all projects are considered?**

There is a governance framework in place which will ensure that all projects are considered in an objective way. The Oversight Group will see all the documentation relating to applications and work closely with sponsoring departments.

**How was the composition of the Fiscal Stimulus Oversight Group decided upon?**

As with all Boards, there is a need to have a mix of skills and viewpoints. The officers on the Board have the most direct experience while being independent of the States Bodies that will be sponsoring bids. The independent member will be appointed to bring an external perspective to the evaluation process.

**How much will the independent member of the Fiscal Stimulus Oversight Group be paid?**

The Independent Member position is not remunerated.

**What happens if there is disagreement about the Minister's decisions?**

The Minister will consider the recommendations made by the Fiscal Stimulus Oversight Group, and the comments from the Economic Recovery Political Oversight Group and the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel. She will have full access to all the relevant information for each project. This should enable her to make a balanced, fair and informed decision on the prioritisation of projects. Ultimately it is her decision.

**What happens once the projects are agreed?**

Once a grant has been awarded from the Fund to a States Body, then the Accountable Officer responsible for that States Body will be responsible for that project. They will need to manage the funds in accordance with the Public Finances Law. The Accountable Officer will need to ensure that they report on project progress and benefit realisation regularly.

**What happens if project funds are granted and then the organisation moves away from the original project objectives?**

The Public Finance Manual sets out the governance arrangements for grants which allows for departments to have a clawback arrangement within the grant award terms. Each sponsoring department and accountable office will document the terms of the grant and manage within the existing governance framework.

**Will there be an evaluation of the impact of the Fund on the economy?**

Once all the funds have been distributed then a report of the awards will be published. States Bodies will be receiving the funds, and these will be managed and monitored in accordance with the Public Finance Manual. The economics team will be monitoring the economic indicators in general and this will give insights into the impact of the projects. There is also sector specific information available which can be used to gauge the impact of the projects.

**How will you measure if this has been a success?**

The purpose of this measure is to reduce the falls in output and employment in the short-term and to reduce the damage to the economy in the medium to long-term. We can measure the economy in those terms and will be able to make a broad assessment of the impact of the Fund on that basis. Regular economic information is released, and we will also comment on the projects based on their stated economic objectives

**The construction sector is already very busy, do they need this support?**

The Fund will not support large scale capital projects in the construction sector. It will fund a range of programmes and projects, including skills and technology projects. All bids will be assessed against their ability to use spare capacity in the economy. While some areas of the construction sector have a strong pipeline of work, the economy has experienced a severe recession, and this means that there is spare capacity in many sectors. Bringing these resources into productive use can both cushion the recession and reduce the potential for long-term economic scarring.

**Won't this disrupt the normal economy because you will be giving this money to projects unnecessarily?**

The governance processes that have been put in place are there to ensure that there is consideration of the impact of projects. This will be done by using a valid set of criteria, having an economic impact assessment and using economic data to review the sector.