

RESERVE FOR FUNDING FOR THE REALISATION OF A CARE SURVIOR-LED LEGACY

1. Purpose of Report

To enable the Minister to approve the allocation in 2022 of up to £250,000 from the Reserve for Centrally Held Items to the Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance (SPPP) head of expenditure for onward payment of a grant to Jersey Community Partnership as the delivery partner of the care survivor-led legacy initiatives, and to provide mental health support for the care survivors participating in the initiatives.

2. Background

As part of the overall response to the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry, there are three outstanding elements of the Legacy Project recommended by the Care Inquiry Legacy Citizens Panel that are yet to be implemented:

1. The need to establish a permanent public apology from Government to all those who were impacted by failings in the Island's care system.
2. The need to create a permanent public space specifically dedicated for the purpose of remembering and reflecting on the events which were investigated by the Care Inquiry.
3. The need to establish a formal network to support survivors and their families to come together, support one another, and represent their shared interests.

To ensure that these recommendations are fully embraced by survivors, there is a need to ensure that their implementation adopts a survivor-led approach. Accordingly, the Jersey Community Partnership (JCP), a local non-profit organisation, will act as the delivery partner for these recommendations and funding that has been provided in reserves for their implementation will be granted to the JCP.

This model will enable Government to adopt an enabling, monitoring and governance role, with JCP grant-funded to directly support survivors to deliver the remaining Legacy Project recommendations. The approach is intended to protect and progress survivors' hard-won consensus and secure effective, responsive and independent implementation, with Government retaining appropriate governance responsibilities.

Resources will also be allocated to enable a mental health support offer for care survivors involved in completing the remaining legacy workstreams for the duration of this project, to ensure that their participation does not have a detrimental impact on their mental health and wellbeing.

3. Recommendation

The Minister is recommended to approve the allocation in 2022 of up to £250,000 from the Reserve for Centrally Held Items to the Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance (SPPP) head of expenditure for onward payment of a grant to Jersey Community Partnership as the delivery partner of the care survivor led legacy initiatives and to and to provide mental health support for the care survivors participating in the initiatives.

4. Reason for Decision

Article 15(3) of the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 states that the approval by the States of a Government Plan authorises the Minister to direct how an approved appropriation for a reserve head of expenditure in the plan may be spent (including on another head of expenditure) in the first financial year covered by the plan.

The current Policy for Allocations from the Reserve, presented to the States Assembly as R.60/2021, sets the requirement for all allocations from the Reserves for Centrally Held Items, to be reviewed by the Investment Appraisal Team which will provide the Treasurer of the States sufficient information to allow him to reach a decision to recommend the allocation prior to submission to the Minister for approval.

The Investment Appraisal Team has reviewed the business case for this request and recommended it for approval. Following this review, the Treasurer recommends that the Minister allocates funding from the Reserve for Centrally Held Items.

5. Resource Implications

The Reserve for Centrally Held Items to decrease by up to £250,000 and the Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance head of expenditure to increase by an identical amount.

This decision does not change the total amount of expenditure approved by the States in the Government Plan 2022-25.