

RESERVE FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL PRESSURES IN 2022

1. Purpose of Report

To enable the Minister to approve for 2022 the allocation of up to £190,519 from the General Reserve to Justice and Home Affairs head of expenditure to assist with funding additional costs due to Operation Spire

2. Background

Following the Pier Road explosion on 10th December 2022, various departments have incurred unforeseen and unpreventable costs. The Treasurer confirmed to all relevant Accountable Officers that costs, as a result of the immediate response to the Major Incident (Operation Spire), could be covered by an allocation from the General Reserve if it materialised that these costs could not be absorbed by the department.

The following table summarises the amounts spent in relation to Operation Spire:

Head of Expenditure	Amount £
COO/OCE/ER	7,228
Police	544,009
JHA	256,580
IHE	122,700
HCS	50,910
CLS	26,905
Total costs	1,008,332

Most costs have been able to be absorbed from existing approvals in 2022. However, Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) have covered some of the costs but are requesting an allocation of £190,519 to cover the remaining unfunded balance.

3. Recommendation

The Minister is recommended to approve for 2022 the allocation of up to £190,519 from the General Reserve to JHA head of expenditure.

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.76/2022, sets out the requirements for allocations from the General Reserve. These requirements have been met and the Treasurer now recommends these allocations to the Minister for Treasury and Resources for approval.

5. Resource Implications

The General Reserve Head of Expenditure to decrease by up to £190,519 and the Justice and Home Affairs Head of Expenditure to increase by an identical amount in 2022.

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

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