

Framework Agreement

between the Chief Statistician and the Cabinet Office

17 December 2025

Terms used

Chief Statistician: the post of Chief Statistician as established under Article 2 of the Law.

Statistics Jersey: this includes the Chief Statistician and their office (the Office of the Chief Statistician), as established by the Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018 (“the Law”).

Statistics Council: established under Article 7C of the Law.

Jersey Statistical System: public authorities producing statistics that describe, on a representative basis, the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation in Jersey, established under Article 7M(1) of the Law.

Minister: the Minister with primary responsibility for Statistics Jersey as defined within the Law. This is currently the Chief Minister. This should be taken to also include any successor minister to whom this official responsibility may be transferred.

Government Accountable Officer: the Government of Jersey officer accountable for the appropriate use of public funds for the Cabinet Office. The term Government Accountable Officer, previously known as Accounting Officer, includes delegates appointed by the Government Accountable Officer.

Public Finances Manual: the manual issued under the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019. This term should also be read as referring to Financial Directions issued under the previous Public Finances Law.

Department: the Cabinet Office within the Government of Jersey (GoJ). This should be taken to also include any successor departments or bodies.

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Section 1: Introduction to the Framework Agreement

1. This Framework Agreement (“The Agreement”) has been jointly agreed by the Chief Statistician and the Department on behalf of the Minister.
2. The Agreement sets out for the benefit of the Chief Statistician, Statistics Jersey, the Department and other interested parties:
 - a. the principles underlying the working relationship between the Chief Statistician, Statistics Jersey and the Government of Jersey (GoJ);
 - b. matters relating to accountability, assurance, value and engagement; and
 - c. arrangements with regard to the provision and management of resources.

The Agreement recognises Statistics Jersey’s statutory independence, along with the obligations placed upon the Department for ensuring the good governance of arms-length bodies.

3. The Agreement takes effect from the date on which it is signed by all relevant parties. The Agreement will be subject to a full review every two years. The formal review dates do not, however, preclude the Agreement being amended with the agreement of both the Department and Statistics Jersey in the intervening period.

The Agreement will be made available on both the Department’s and Statistics Jersey’s websites.

4. The Agreement is subject to the provisions of the Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018 (“The Law”) and legislation relevant to good governance in the public sector, including:
 - a. Public Records (Jersey) Law 2002
 - b. Employment of the States of Jersey Employees (Jersey) Law 2005
 - c. Freedom of Information (Jersey) Law 2011
 - d. Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2018
 - e. Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019

Amendments to any relevant legislation will take precedence over any part of the Agreement. The Agreement will not convey any legal powers or responsibilities.

Independence of Statistics Jersey

5. Statistics Jersey (the “Chief Statistician” and their Office) is established under Article 2 of the Law as a corporation sole with perpetual succession. Statistics Jersey is an “other States Body” as set out under Schedule 6 to the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019. Statistics Jersey performs its functions independently of the Government of Jersey and must not be directed on how any of the Chief Statistician’s functions are to be carried out (Article 4(1)).
6. As an independent body, Statistics Jersey must be free to carry out its responsibilities without impediment and in a timely manner, and that independence is characterised through behaviours, culture, and identity. This includes, but is not limited, to:

- a. independent decision making;
- b. Statistics Jersey determining its own constitution, values, priorities and working practices. These must, however, be in accordance with the Law and the Seven Principles of Public Life established by the UK Committee on Standards in Public Life;
- c. independence of voice and freedom to develop, without interference, partnerships with any stakeholders;
- d. the right to seek, without interference, engagement with the States Assembly Scrutiny function, States Members, regulatory bodies, Law Officers or other agencies/entities, or respond to requests for information, participation etc.; and
- e. determination of brand and identity (logo; branded website/pages etc.).

Dispute Resolution Process

- 7. Where a dispute arises between the Department and Statistics Jersey, all efforts will be made to reach an agreed position without the need for further escalation. Should resolution not be achieved, then escalation will be undertaken to the next level of seniority in the Department, with the final level being that of the Chief Statistician in consultation with the Government Accountable Officer. If an agreed outcome cannot be achieved at this level, then an independent third-party arbiter may be engaged whose decision will be binding on both parties within the confines of the law.

Section 2: Good Practice Principles

8. Four key principles¹ underpin the partnership between the Department and Statistics Jersey. Both partners to this Agreement will pay heed to these principles in all their interactions and in communications with other parties. These principles mirror those of the UK Cabinet Office's Code of Good Practice relating to partnerships between departments and arms-length bodies (the "Code of Good Practice Principles").

Purpose	Partnerships work well when the purpose, objectives and roles of arm's-length bodies are mutually understood; reviewed on a regular basis; and clearly set out in relevant documents. There is absolute clarity about lines of accountability between departments and arm's-length bodies. In exercising statutory functions, arm's-length bodies have clarity about how their purpose and objectives align with those of departments.
Assurance	Partnerships work well when departments adopt a proportionate approach to assurance, based on arm's-length bodies' purpose and a mutual understanding of risk. Arm's-length bodies have robust governance arrangements in place; departments give arm's-length bodies the autonomy to deliver effectively. Management information exists to enable departments and arm's-length bodies to assess performance.
Value	Partnerships work well when departments and arm's-length bodies share skills and experience in order to enhance their impact and deliver more effectively. Arm's-length bodies are able to contribute to policy making and broader departmental priorities. There is a focus on innovation, and on how departments and arm's-length bodies work together to deliver value for money.
Engagement	Partnerships work well when relationships between departments and arm's-length bodies are open, honest, constructive and based on trust. There is mutual understanding about each other's objectives and clear expectations about the terms of engagement.

¹ Four key principles are based on the UK Cabinet Office Code of Good Practice 2017: *Partnerships between departments and arm's length bodies*.

Section 3: Purpose

Statistics Jersey's vision, purpose and functions

9. Statistics Jersey's vision:

Government, the States Assembly, businesses, charities, and the public have the independent, reliable statistics and advice on Jersey's people and economy that they need from us to help them shape the Island's future.

10. Statistics Jersey's purpose is to:

Produce high-quality statistics on Jersey's people and economy that:

- a. Tell a story about life in Jersey;
- b. Support decision making by islanders;
- c. Assist public policy making and the delivery of public services; and
- d. Make best uses of existing data.

In addition, Statistics Jersey:

- a. Runs the ten-yearly census;
- b. Promotes publication of data by public authorities, along with high standards in the production and reporting of such statistics; and
- c. Supports the professional development of the statistical and analyst profession within government.

11. Statistics Jersey's functions are set out in the Law. These include:

- a. discharging functions conferred on the Chief Statistician under the Law and any other enactment; and
- b. carrying out the responsibilities of the Chief Statistician under the Law and any other enactment.

Role of Chief Statistician

12. The Chief Statistician will uphold the vision and deliver the purpose and functions of Statistics Jersey. They will provide strategic leadership and expert technical knowledge and skills to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of their statutory functions in accordance with legislation.

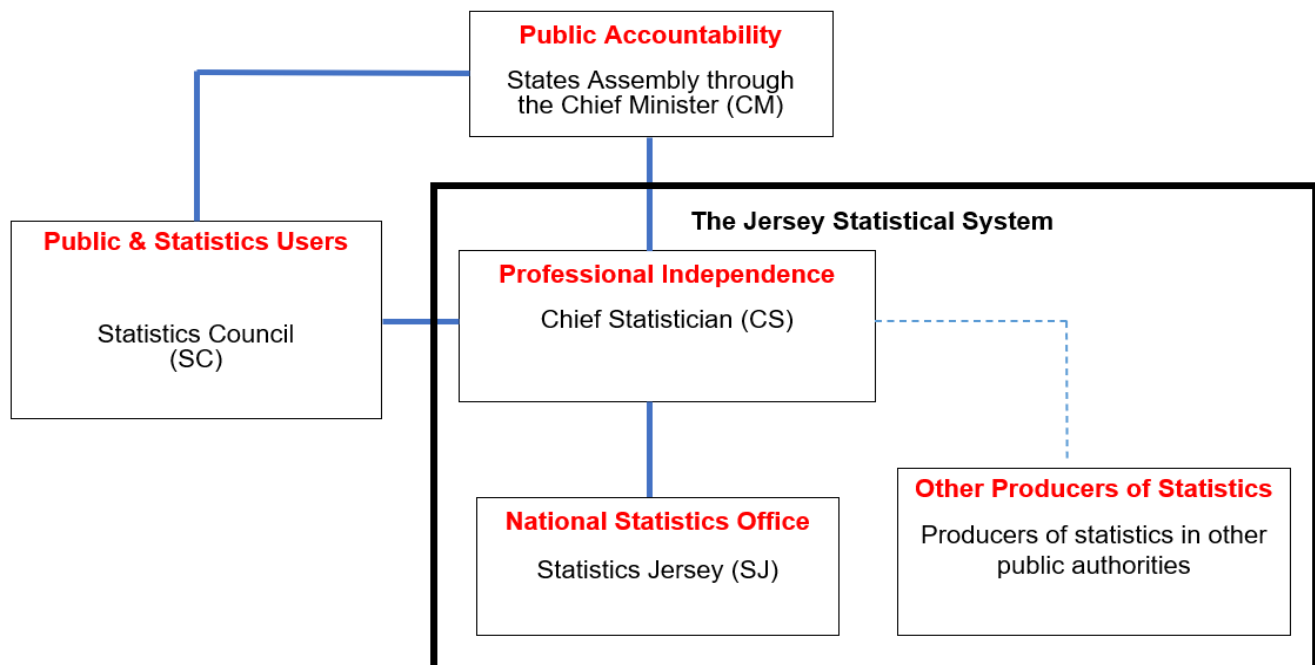
13. They will act as Head of Profession for statisticians and analysts across all public authorities. In doing so they will facilitate training opportunities for the profession as far as funding allows. They will engage with chief officers and other leaders across public authorities to promote high statistical standards across statistician and analyst roles and work directly with statisticians and analysts to support their professional development. They will establish a Statistics Producers' Group to coordinate statistical production across all relevant public authorities and promote high standards of statistical production.

Government of Jersey's objectives and role in relation to Statistics Jersey

14. The Government of Jersey is committed to high standards of statistical production, producing effective data that meets the needs of statistics users in Jersey. It seeks to ensure that:
 - a. people are provided with statistical reports of interest to them, and which assist them with decision-making via Statistics Jersey and other public authorities;
 - b. all producers of statistics deliver statistics to high standards and, where there is evidence of poor practice, this is readily identified in order that services can be supported to improve the quality of statistical production or is subject to appropriate interventions; and
 - c. there is public confidence in Statistics Jersey, that it is seen as effective, relevant and provides value for money.

15. The Government will support the Chief Statistician to carry out their responsibilities as Head of Profession for statisticians and analysts. This includes enabling the Chief Statistician to communicate directly with statisticians working across public authorities and supporting and promoting the provision of training by the Chief Statistician.

16. The Jersey Statistical System includes the Government of Jersey and other public authorities, as well as Statistics Jersey. The Government will support the Chief Statistician to ensure that all public authorities discharge their statutory and wider corporate responsibilities effectively and that the Chief Statistician is supported in establishing the Statistics Producers' Group. This includes supporting the Chief Statistician to produce the strategy for the Jersey Statistical System and the Statistics Jersey output plan, as far as it is appropriate to do so.



The Department's functions in relation to the Government of Jersey, the States Assembly and the people of Jersey

17. Ensuring that the right legal and policy framework is in place. The Department will be responsible for advising the Minister and the States Assembly on policy and legislation matters relating to the production of statistics and governance of statistical production by public authorities. The Department will:
 - a. engage Statistics Jersey in this process, including seeking advice on legislative priorities; and
 - b. seek to secure the policy and law-drafting resources necessary to develop legislation should this be necessary.
18. Supporting the Minister to perform their functions and to discharge their duties under the Law.
19. Supporting ministers when being held to account by the States Assembly for the effectiveness and efficiency of Statistics Jersey in the performance of their functions and exercise of their powers.
20. Supporting the States Assembly (as appropriate) in respecting, upholding and defending the independence of Statistics Jersey.
21. Holding Statistics Jersey to account on behalf of the public of Jersey, to ensure Statistics Jersey is effective in the delivery of its statutory functions and provides value for money.
22. Supporting the States Employment Board (SEB), as required, regarding the remuneration and pension matters of the Chief Statistician and officers working in Statistics Jersey.

The Department's functions in relation to Statistics Jersey

23. Overseeing the appointment of the Chief Statistician, in accordance with Schedule 1 to the Law. This includes matters relating to resignation and termination of their appointment. The Department will work in accordance with those requirements and, at all points, in consultation with the Chief Statistician unless inappropriate.
24. Ensuring the provision of adequate financial and other resources required to support the functioning of Statistics Jersey. The Department will:
 - a. support the Chief Statistician with the annual finance appropriations process to ensure the provision of funding to Statistics Jersey, adhering to the process for financial appropriations under Article 4 of the Law; Article 10 of the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 in respect of Schedule 6 bodies; and the Public Finances Manual;
 - b. assist Statistics Jersey to recruit staff and provide a full HR service to Statistics Jersey, including access to HR systems;
 - c. provide a financial management service to Statistics Jersey, including access to financial management systems;
 - d. provide access to the Government's risk management systems;
 - e. provide access to the Government's central feedback system;
 - f. provide a full IT service to Statistics Jersey which accounts for its ongoing needs; and

- g. provide a data protection and freedom of information service (if and when this Law applies) to Statistics Jersey, with associated access to systems, as far as the Law allows.
- 25. Supporting ministers when being held to account by the States Assembly for the effectiveness and efficiency of the Chief Statistician in the fulfilment of their functions and exercise of their powers.
- 26. Supporting the States Assembly (as appropriate) in respecting, upholding and defending the independence of the Chief Statistician (Article 2 of the Law); and in holding the Chief Statistician to account on behalf of the public of Jersey, to ensure Statistics Jersey is effective in the delivery of their functions and provides value for money.

Section 4: Assurance

Introduction: Accountability and assurance

27. The establishment of an independent body does not relieve the Government from its responsibility to ensure, on behalf of the public, that good governance is demonstrated, that effective internal control is in place and value for money is secured by that body. Likewise, Statistics Jersey, as a public authority – i.e. a corporation sole with perpetual succession – is not relieved from its responsibility to ensure that robust governance arrangements are in place.
28. The accountability and assurance arrangements set out in this Framework Agreement are intended to reflect the Code of Good Practice Principles and accord with the Government of Jersey's Public Finances Manual. They reflect an approach to accountability and assurance that is proportionate and based on a mutual understanding of Statistics Jersey's purpose and of associated risk.

Accountability and assurance framework

29. Those arrangements are set with the following accountability framework:
- a. The Minister is accountable to the States Assembly and the public for the performance of Statistics Jersey.
 - b. Statistics Jersey is accountable to the Minister for its performance. The Minister will require assurance of:
 - i. Statistics Jersey's performance; and
 - ii. standards of statistical production by Jersey public authorities.
 - c. Assurance as to Statistics Jersey's performance will be provided by Statistics Jersey and the Government Accountable Officer.
 - d. Assurance as to standards of statistical production by other public authorities will be provided by Statistics Jersey in conjunction with the Statistics Council.
 - e. The Chief Statistician is accountable for the public funds which the States Assembly provides to Statistics Jersey.
 - f. The Government Accountable Officer will require assurance from the Chief Statistician about performance and value for money. The Government Accountable Officer, in turn, is required to provide assurance to the Treasury about value for money and for ensuring compliance with the Public Finances Law and Public Finances Manual.
 - g. The Minister, in consultation with the Principal Accountable Officer, will hold the Government Accountable Officer to account for the Department's work to support Statistics Jersey and to uphold the terms of this Framework Agreement.

Responsibilities of the Government Accountable Officer and Statistics Jersey

Strategic and operational performance

30. Assurance as to Statistics Jersey's performance will be provided by the Chief Statistician.

31. The Chief Statistician will provide assurance to the Government Accountable Officer as to the performance of Statistics Jersey and demonstrate the link to corporate and departmental objectives.
32. The Chief Statistician will provide assurance as to:
- a. achievement of the objectives of the Government of Jersey in relation to Statistics Jersey, as set out in Section 3 above; and
 - b. good governance and value for money.
33. The Chief Statistician is required by the Law to prepare and present to the Minister as soon as practicable after each new Common Strategic Policy (“CSP”) has been approved by the States:
- (a) a strategy for the Jersey Statistical System, taking into account both the data required to support the CSP over Ministers’ term of office and the wider needs of users of statistics in Jersey; and
 - (b) a plan for the output of Statistics Jersey (the “output plan”) covering the term of the CSP.
34. The Chief Statistician will ensure that objectives, targets and key performance indicators are in place to enable effective performance management. They will provide assurance to the Government Accountable Officer that this is in place.

Finances and Risk

35. The Government Accountable Officer is accountable for the public funds which flow from the Government to Statistics Jersey. The Government Accountable Officer will delegate management of these funds to the Chief Statistician in accordance with the Department’s scheme of delegation
36. The Chief Statistician will ensure that the standard of financial management complies with the provisions of the Public Finances Law and Public Finances Manual. Where a deviation from the requirements of the Manual may be required by Statistics Jersey, the decision and rationale should be documented and appropriate approval obtained from the Government Accountable Officer.
37. The Government Accountable Officer will require assurance from the Chief Statistician regarding financial propriety and regularity, that funds are used economically, efficiently and effectively, that there is effective stewardship of any assets controlled or safeguarded, and that appropriate systems are in place to identify and manage risks.
38. The Chief Statistician will be required to complete and approve an Annual Financial Assurance Statement which should be included in the Annual Report and accounts.
39. The Government Accountable Officer and Chief Statistician must ensure that an appropriate approach to risk management is followed by Statistics Jersey and that systems are in place to identify and manage these risks.
40. The Government Accountable Officer and Chief Statistician must ensure compliance with the requirements of the Government of Jersey’s insurance policy, including any reporting requirements.

41. The Government Accountable Officer will be generally available for consultation, but in periods of absence (such as annual leave) will ensure that there is another senior officer who can act on their behalf.

Staff

42. Statistics Jersey staff are accountable to the Chief Statistician for their performance. Statistics Jersey will appoint and manage those staff in accordance with the relevant Government and SEB policies, and procedures.
43. The Government Accountable Officer will ensure that Statistics Jersey staff, who are SEB employees, are appointed and managed by Statistics Jersey in accordance with SEB codes, policies and procedures.

Performance of the Chief Statistician and the Government Accountable Officer

44. Assurance as to the performance of the Chief Statistician as a senior public office holder will be provided by the Government Accountable Officer on the basis of an annual appraisal.
45. In the event that the Government Accountable Officer has concerns about the capability of the Chief Statistician to discharge their functions, or concerns about their conduct or behaviour, the Government Accountable Officer may recommend to the Minister that the Minister commissions a review of the Chief Statistician's performance, or an investigation of any matter, having first informed the Chief Statistician of their intention to do so.
46. In the event that the Chief Statistician has concerns about the Government Accountable Officer, with regard to the support provided to Statistics Jersey, or to upholding the terms of this Framework Agreement, they should report those concerns to the Principal Accountable Officer, having first informed the Government Accountable Officer of their intention to do so.

Register of gifts, hospitality, and private interests

47. Statistics Jersey must maintain a gifts, hospitality and private interests register. The Chief Statistician must record any gifts, hospitality, or private interests on that register. Statistics Jersey staff, as SEB employees, must also comply with relevant requirements relating to the recording of gifts, hospitality, or private interests.
48. The Government Accountable Officer must take steps to be satisfied that the register is operated effectively.

Complaints policy and management

49. Statistics Jersey agrees to adopt the Government of Jersey's central complaints policy and procedure for managing complaints about the performance of Statistics Jersey, including complaints about staff or about the Chief Statistician. The Government will provide access to its feedback systems.

50. The Government Accountable Officer must be satisfied that the policy and procedure are sufficiently robust and operate effectively.

51. Statistics Jersey must:

- a. consult the Government Accountable Officer about the draft policy prior to publication; and
- b. include information about complaints management in its Annual Report.

52. In the event that the Minister receives a complaint about Statistics Jersey, the Government Accountable Officer will inform Statistics Jersey about the complaint, will engage with Statistics Jersey in any necessary investigation of the complaint and will notify Statistics Jersey of any response issued to the complainant.

Data Protection

53. The Chief Statistician is responsible for ensuring compliance with the Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2018 (DP) and provisions of the Law relating to information disclosure. The Chief Statistician is required to:

- a. register with the Information Commissioner as a Controller;
- b. manage data in accordance with the DP law; and
- c. respond to Subject Access Requests in accordance with the DP law.

54. The Department is required to ensure that:

- a. training is provided to staff working in Statistics Jersey, along with day-to-day guidance and support on matters relating to DP and provisions of the Law relating to information disclosure; and
- b. Statistics Jersey has the necessary facilities to manage DP requirements (for example, locked cabinets), as well as access to the Government's data protection functions and systems.

Freedom of Information

55. Statistics Jersey is not currently a scheduled public authority for the purposes of the Freedom of Information (Jersey) Law 2011. However, Statistics Jersey may decide to respond to any FOI requests, in the interests of transparency. Any FOI requests directed to Statistics Jersey will be answered by Statistics Jersey. When the FOI response is issued, this will be copied to the Government Accountable Officer, for information only. The Government's central FOI system will be extended to Statistics Jersey if and when the FOI Law is extended to Statistics Jersey.

56. Where an FOI request is directed towards the Government but relates in some way to Statistics Jersey, the Government Accountable Officer will ensure that Statistics Jersey is consulted on the draft response before it is issued.

Responsibilities of Statistics Jersey: production of statistics and census

57. In accordance with Article 6 of the Law, Statistics Jersey will prepare and publish an Annual Report, which will be formally presented to the States Assembly by the Minister.

58. In addition, the Chief Statistician may, as per Article 3 of the Law discontinue or start statistical reports of interest to, and which assist with decision-making by, public authorities, other undertakings and individuals. The Chief Statistician is also responsible for the taking of a census.
59. Where Statistics Jersey does not have sufficient monies to undertake reports or a census, the Chief Statistician should prepare a business case or case for additional funding for the Chief Minister. The Chief Statistician should provide a copy of this business case to the Government Accountable Officer.
60. Statistics Jersey will, when requested by the Minister, prepare a report on any aspect of their responsibilities as requested by the Minister and submit that report to the Minister, providing this request conforms with the requirements of Article 7A of the Law. Where the Minister makes any such request, the Chief Statistician must work with the Government Accountable Officer to ensure the provision of the monies and resources required to do so, as far as it is possible to do so within the requirements of the Public Finances Law. Any such report will be the property of Statistics Jersey and Statistics Jersey will determine matters relating to publication. Statistics Jersey may, as it thinks fit, contract a third party to prepare any such report.

Section 5: Value

61. The Department and Statistics Jersey will work in partnership, sharing skills and experience to enhance impact and deliver more effectively. The Department will work to ensure that Statistics Jersey can contribute to policy making and broader government priorities. Statistics Jersey will work to ensure relevant Departmental policy and operational officers are afforded opportunities to learn from, and contribute to, Statistics Jersey's work.

Key performance indicators

62. Statistics Jersey's Business Plan will include key performance indicators that work to demonstrate the value delivered.

Legislation and Policy Development

63. The Department, under the policy direction of the Minister, is responsible for the development of legislation affecting Statistics Jersey and statistical production more widely, and for resourcing the development of any such legislation.

64. Where Statistics Jersey identifies a deficit in legislation, or where Statistics Jersey does not agree with proposed law changes, the Chief Statistician may publicly state their case. It is understood that Statistics Jersey staff will play a role in developing the Chief Statistician's position, even where that position is contrary to ministerial policy.

65. It is anticipated that Statistics Jersey will inform the Minister, where Statistics Jersey believes that:

- a. there is insufficient progress in the development of legislation, or
- b. the consultation and development process on policy or legislative proposals is flawed.

66. Statistics Jersey must, however, discharge its statutory functions in a fair and impartial manner.

67. The Department will ensure that, wherever possible, officers involved in developing policy are different from those tasked with monitoring the relationship with Statistics Jersey.

Section 6: Engagement

68. Statistics Jersey and Government will engage with each other in a manner which is open, honest, and constructive. They will work to ensure a mutual understanding of each other's objectives. This engagement will include regular meetings, annual meetings, and Annual Reporting.
69. Statistics Jersey will engage with the Statistics Council in a manner which is open, honest, and constructive. They will work to ensure a mutual understanding of each other's objectives. The Department will develop, publish and maintain a separate framework agreement with the Statistics Council.
70. The Chief Statistician and the Government Accountable Officer will engage with each other regarding all relevant matters affecting the work of Statistics Jersey, as and when these matters arise, to ensure they are aware of any significant issues and that there are no surprises. This may include consulting Statistics Jersey about emerging relevant policy and legislation matters or proposed changes to Government service provision.
71. The Chief Statistician must attend all formal meetings of the Statistics Council. If they are unable to attend meetings for good reasons, they may delegate their attendance to a senior member of their staff. They must discharge their statutory responsibilities to consult the Council in a timely manner and provide the Council with a reasonable period to respond when seeking the Council's views. The Chief Statistician should operate a "no surprises" policy with the Council and should provide advance notice of any key announcements (except statistical reports, as these are already in the Release calendar | Statistics Jersey) as far as practicable.
72. The Government Accountable Officer must ensure that the Chair of the Statistics Council is included on the recruitment panel for the Chief Statistician role. They must consult with the Council on the recruitment process. They must inform the Council if the Chief Minister intends to dismiss the Chief Statistician from office as soon as is practicable.

Regular meetings

73. The Government Accountable Officer and the Chief Statistician must meet at least twice a year to discuss priorities, strategic direction and business planning. Those meetings may be cancelled if both the Chief Statistician and Government Accountable Officer agree they are not required. Minutes will be taken of these formal meetings by an officer, as agreed at the outset of the meeting.
74. These meetings do not preclude other meetings taking place during the year between Statistics Jersey and the Minister to discuss/report concerns or matters arising which could, for example, relate to statistical reports, funding or policy matters. These meetings can be at the behest of the Minister (or representatives of the Minister) or at the behest of the Chief Statistician. Neither the Minister nor the Chief Statistician will decline to meet, albeit meeting times and dates will need to be mutually agreed. The Chief Statistician should operate a "no surprises" policy regarding their meetings with ministers and ensure that the Government Accountable Officer is informed of key issues that have been discussed

75. Communications between Statistics Jersey and the Minister shall normally be through the Chief Statistician unless the Chief Statistician has requested a member of their staff to communicate with the Minister on their behalf.
76. The Government Accountable Officer should be informed in advance of all planned or proposed meetings with the Chief Executive and Head of the Public Service.

Annual Report to the Assembly

77. In accordance with Article 6 of the Law, Statistics Jersey will prepare and publish an annual report. This will be formally presented to the States Assembly by the Minister.
78. The annual report is to inform the public of Statistics Jersey's work and activities over the preceding 12-month period. It must:
- (a) include Statistics Jersey's annual accounts;
 - (b) state whether, in the view of the Chief Statistician, the production of tier 1 statistics is adequately resourced; and
 - (c) comply with the Public Finances Manual as it applies to the annual reports of public bodies listed in Schedule 6 to that Law.
79. Prior to presentation to the States Assembly, the Chief Statistician will brief the Minister on the content of the annual report. The Chief Statistician may, as they consider appropriate, hold a meeting with all Assembly members to discuss the contents of the annual report.
80. The Chief Statistician or any of the staff of Statistics Jersey may be called to report on Statistics Jersey's performance or give evidence to committees or panels of the States Assembly, including the Public Accounts Committee.

Annex 1: The arrangements

1. The Law provides the Chief Statistician with the vires to directly employ officers and agents and to enter into agreements for any purpose of their office (Article 2). The Law also places a responsibility on Chief Statistician to ensure that proper financial accounts are kept and are prepared in accordance with the Public Finances Manual (Article 6).
2. It is recognised, however, that the overhead costs associated with financial management, staff management and other services can prove disproportionately expensive for small entities. In the case of Statistics Jersey, these costs would necessitate an increase in funding to fund its office which would provide no material benefit to the public.
3. It is therefore agreed that the Department will provide a range of services to Statistics Jersey including human resources, financial management, legal services, and other services as agreed from time to time.
4. The arrangements set out below will be subject to review.

Staff resources and people management

5. The staff working for Statistics Jersey will be appointed to Statistics Jersey but will be employed by the SEB. For all practical purposes, the effect of this arrangement will be that staff are posted to Statistics Jersey and will be referred to as Statistics Jersey staff. Statistics Jersey will be allocated a Government HR Business Partner who will lead on providing support with its HR needs.
6. The terms and conditions of employment of Statistics Jersey staff will be SEB standard terms and conditions, including matters relating to pension, pay and associated pay increments, flexible working policies etc. Staff will be paid via standard GoJ payroll arrangements.
7. There will be no changes to staff terms and conditions of employment, except where those changes are in accordance with SEB policy. Where the SEB is undertaking any review or restructuring of its employees' terms and conditions of employment, Statistics Jersey staff will be subject to the review on the same basis as all other SEB employees.
8. Any changes to terms of employment will need to be provided for in Statistics Jersey's budget (for example, annual pay increments). Where the Treasury Department makes financial provision for those changes via an uplift to Government core budgets, that uplift will be reflected in the core funding provided to Statistics Jersey. Where no financial provision is made by the Treasury Department, additional costs will need to be met either through efficiencies in Statistics Jersey's budget or through a budget submission via a business case for consideration by the Government Accountable Officer prior to being provided to the Chief Minister.
9. New staff of Statistics Jersey will be recruited under SEB civil service recruitment policies.
10. All new or amended job descriptions will be subject to SEB job evaluation processes. Prior to evaluation, those job descriptions will be approved by the Chief Statistician and the Government Accountable Officer.

11. For all Statistics Jersey staff, the Chief Statistician will chair the appointments panel or, for more junior roles, they may delegate this function to a member of Statistics Jersey staff of appropriate seniority. The chair of the appointments panel will also determine the other officers/third parties to be involved in the recruitment process in accordance with the SEB policy.
12. In the event that the Jersey Appointments Commission (JAC) determines that the appointment falls within their areas of responsibility, a JAC representative will participate in the interview panel.
13. The Chief Statistician will provide direction and supervision on all matters relating to the work of Statistics Jersey. In doing so, Statistics Jersey will be:
 - a. cognisant of their independence; and
 - b. cognisant of the requirement placed on their staff to operate in accordance with relevant GoJ and SEB corporate policies and directions.
14. The Chief Statistician will provide line management, support, and supervision to staff; they will do so in accordance with relevant GoJ and SEB corporate policies and directions.
15. The Chief Statistician will provide a six-monthly report to the Government Accountable Officer. This may take the form of a meeting or a written report. This reporting line is not for directing or ensuring oversight of the work of Statistics Jersey. It is for the purposes of providing assurance of:
 - a. management of SEB employees in accordance with SEB corporate policies;
 - b. compliance with principles of GoJ financial management; and
 - c. compliance with relevant legislation regulating good governance in the public sector.
16. The Chief Statistician will advise the Government Accountable Officer of any concerns about the performance or wellbeing of Statistics Jersey staff in order that the Chief Statistician and the Government Accountable Officer can jointly ensure that those concerns are managed in accordance with GoJ and SEB corporate policy and in accordance with the law.
17. In the event that action needs to be taken with regard to a member of Statistics Jersey staff (conduct, performance, attendance, etc.), this will be undertaken, in accordance with SEB policy, by the Chief Statistician.
18. Nothing in the above paragraphs precludes the Chief Statistician or their staff from reporting any concerns about the performance or wellbeing of the Chief Statistician or Statistics Jersey staff to the Government Accountable Officer or another appropriate GoJ staff member, or from following the GoJ whistleblowing policy.

Public funds

19. The Public Finances Law requires the Council of Ministers to propose a Budget (Government Plan), setting out an income and expenditure plan for the States Assembly to decide upon. A Government Plan will usually be lodged by the Council of Ministers in the summer and considered by the Assembly in late Autumn/Winter of the year proceeding the start of the new Government Plan period.

20. As with all public funding, confirmation of the core budget is subject to States Assembly approval of each annual budget, and no monies can be guaranteed beyond the annual budget cycle.
21. Any inflationary or pay award budget uplifts decided by the Assembly will be applied to the budget for Statistics Jersey, except for where the Assembly decides otherwise.
22. Statistics Jersey is a Schedule 6 body under the Public Finances Law and budget appropriations must conform with the process set out under Article 4 of the Law and Article 10 of the Public Finances Law. In practice, the Government Accountable Officer must consult the Chief Statistician regarding anticipated resources requirements in advance of the Council of Ministers submitting a proposed Budget to the Assembly. This is in addition to the 6 and 12 monthly reporting meetings (see above) being used to consider budget matters, or to consider business cases relating to any proposed uplift in the core budget for Statistics Jersey.
23. The Government Accountable Officer and Chief Statistician should work together to agree the budget for Statistics Jersey, following Treasury and Resources budget planning requirements and in accordance with the statutory funding requirements for Statistics Jersey under Article 4(3) of the Law, the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 and the Public Finances Manual. In so doing:
- the Chief Statistician is required to provide written assurance to the Government Accountable Officer by completing the Arm's Length Bodies Governance, Risk and Compliance Checklist;
 - the Chief Statistician should prepare an assessment of the funding required to discharge their functions at such period as is required by Law and is appropriate for Statistics Jersey's requirements;
 - the Chief Statistician and the Government Accountable Officer should jointly brief the Chief Minister on the funding required by the Chief Statistician;
 - the Chief Minister will decide on the level of funding for the Chief Statistician, and this should be formally documented.
24. Following the Minister's consideration and approval of Statistics Jersey's budget, this amount may be submitted directly into the annual Budget, as set out under Article 10 of the Public Finances Law. The Minister may choose to consult and take into account feedback from the Council of Ministers before doing so. For the avoidance of doubt, the Council of Ministers may disagree with the amount submitted by the Minister and may include a statement to this effect, but it is solely the Minister's decision whether to amend the amount prior to it being considered by the States Assembly. Notwithstanding this, the Council of Ministers or any other States member may decide to amend the amount in advance of the annual Budget debate.

External provision of statistical services

25. Article 3(2)(n) of the Law allows the Chief Statistician to decide to provide statistical services for other organisations, including those based outside Jersey and foreign governments. In so doing, the Chief Statistician must charge a reasonable fee.

26. The Chief Statistician must not provide statistical services if to do so would compromise their perceived or actual independence, nor must they do so if doing so may have a negative impact on the performance of its statutory functions in Jersey.
27. The Chief Statistician must consult the Government Accountable Officer prior to agreeing to provide external statistical services. They must provide the Government Accountable Officer with information on the nature of the services they intend to provide, the terms of any legal agreement and the fees that will be charged.
28. It is the responsibility of the Government Accountable Officer to ensure Statistics Jersey is performing its functions effectively, including whether the provision of statistical services externally is compromising its ability to perform its functions. To this end the Government Accountable Officer will scrutinise Statistics Jersey's external work. Where the Government Accountable Officer has concerns relating to this, the Government Accountable Officer may report those concerns to the Minister, Treasurer of the States and the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Financial management support

29. The Treasury Department will provide a finance management service to Statistics Jersey, including in relation to core budget (Statistics Jersey funds).
30. All Statistics Jersey staff will comply with principles of good financial management practice and the requirements of the Public Finances Manual. A Finance Business Partner and dedicated staff will provide monthly income and expenditure reports to the Chief Statistician for review and action where necessary.
31. The Chief Statistician will always have responsibility for day-to-day management of Statistics Jersey funds.
32. Income and expenditure will, however, be subject to review by the Government Accountable Officer, in order to help assess value for money as part of the Government Accountable Officer's overall responsibility for the Department's heads of expenditure.
33. Budget forecasts will be agreed at the beginning of each financial year with the Chief Statistician. The Chief Statistician will determine areas of expenditure in accordance with annual priorities. Statistics Jersey cannot commit to any new expenditure unless it can be met from within allocated funds, or from an additional recurring or non-recurring allocation approved by the Government Accountable Officer. Any proposed increase to Statistics Jersey funds will require a costed business case, prepared by the Chief Statistician on behalf of Statistics Jersey in consultation with the Government Accountable Officer.
34. Overspends: Statistics Jersey should not overspend on its budget. In the event of unforeseeable events giving rise to overspends, the Government Accountable Officer should be informed, and the Finance Business Partner will provide assistance to manage overspends.

35. Underspends: the Finance Business Partner will provide assistance with the management of underspends. No roll-overs of funding can be guaranteed, as all are subject to Treasury Department approval.
36. When procuring supplies or services from a third party, raising or paying invoices, Statistics Jersey will, unless otherwise agreed with the Government Accountable Officer, use GoJ supplier systems (for example, Ariba) and act in accordance with procurement guidance. Where Statistics Jersey wishes to deviate from this course, the Government Accountable Officer will consider any proposals for providing appropriate exemptions. In the event Statistics Jersey does not use GoJ suppliers, Statistics Jersey will need to demonstrate best value decisions.

Accounts and audit

37. In accordance with Article 6 of the Law, the Chief Statistician must ensure that proper accounts and proper records in relation to the accounts are kept; accounts are prepared in respect of each financial year; and the annual accounts are prepared using the accounting standards by which the accounts of the States are to be prepared, and which are included in the Public Finances Manual. In addition, the Chief Statistician must produce an annual report on the exercise of their functions. Unless it has been agreed that by both the Government Accountable Officer and the Chief Statistician that Statistics Jersey will not be within the accounts for the States, in practice, Statistics Jersey's accounts will be prepared by the Department for Treasury and Exchequer.
38. Statistics Jersey must submit a copy of its accounts and annual report to the Minister as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of the financial year. The Minister must present a copy of the accounts and report to the States.
39. If Statistics Jersey's accounts are not included in the accounts of the States for a financial year, the Chief Statistician must appoint auditors approved by the Comptroller and Auditor General to audit the annual accounts.

IT services and support

40. IT equipment/systems/licences used by Statistics Jersey at the point at which the Statistics and Census (Jersey) Amendment Law 2025 came into force will continue to be made available to Statistics Jersey's staff on the same terms and conditions:
- a. equipment/systems will remain the property of GoJ and will be allocated an asset number; and
 - b. where licences are funded via central GoJ IT budgets this will continue (except in the event that a decision is taken that no licences should be centrally funded). Where licences were funded from Statistics Jersey's budget this will continue.
41. Day-to-day IT support will be provided via GoJ IT helpdesk services and will be in accordance with the helpdesk's policies and standards applicable to Government departments. Statistics Jersey will be allocated a Government Digital Services Business Enablement Manager who will lead on providing support with its IT needs.

42. GoJ IT support does not include the provision of new/additional IT or communications equipment or systems (including hardware, software, licences and system development) except where it falls within a Government wide equipment/systems/licences upgrade. In all other cases, new/additional hardware or software will need to be funded via Statistics Jersey's budget. Once hardware has been purchased it will, in most cases, be maintained and updated by GoJ IT services via IT services budget.
43. Any changes or upgrades to GoJ equipment/systems will need to be commissioned in accordance with GoJ policies and procedures.
44. Statistics Jersey may:
- a. request budget increases to fund new IT equipment/systems/licenses as part of the budget planning processes; and
 - b. bid for any investment monies that are made available as part of e-government or associated initiatives.

Any requests will be assessed against the criteria applicable to Government departments.

Accommodation

45. Statistics Jersey is currently accommodated in the Government of Jersey's central Union Street Office. Statistics Jersey will continue to use this accommodation unless both the Government Accountable Officer and the Chief Statistician agree to discontinue the arrangement. The Department will ensure that Statistics Jersey has access to appropriate office accommodation. This accommodation will be provided and managed via Jersey Property Holdings (JPH) as per standard Government accommodation arrangements.
46. No provision will be made in Statistics Jersey's budget for rent, servicing and fixtures and fittings to be paid to JPH on the condition that Statistics Jersey will continue to use the Government of Jersey's Union Street building. Statistics Jersey's budget must cover rent, servicing and fixtures and fittings to be paid to JPH should alternative accommodation be used.
47. Any changes to these arrangements must be agreed between Statistics Jersey, the Department and JPH. Accommodation must be of a standard that meets the needs of Statistics Jersey, and which would stand up to public scrutiny. The overall cost of the accommodation cannot be disproportionate to Statistics Jersey's requirements.
48. The proportion paid by Statistics Jersey towards shared services and facilities will be based on a pre-agreed funding formula.

Legal advice

49. The Law Officers' Department (LOD) will provide legal advice to Statistics Jersey where Statistics Jersey requires civil or criminal law advice in connection with its functions and powers. There will be no cost to Statistics Jersey for the LOD's assistance. This arrangement will be kept under active review and, in the event it is determined that the LOD does not have the capacity to provide such advice, Statistics Jersey will procure independent legal advice.

50. In any circumstance where Statistics Jersey requires independent legal advice:

- a. the LOD will assist to procure an appropriate arrangement with external lawyers to ensure best value for money;
- b. Statistics Jersey will meet the costs of this advice from its financial resources. Where those resources are not sufficient, Statistics Jersey will notify the Government Accountable Officer in advance of their intention to instruct legal advisors and of the anticipated cost. The Government Accountable Officer will meet the costs where the Government Accountable Officer is satisfied that Statistics Jersey has worked with the LOD to ensure best value.

51. In the event Statistics Jersey decides to take civil action, they must notify the Government Accountable Officer and the Law Officers Department in advance. If, as a result of that action, Statistics Jersey is ordered to pay a party's legal costs, Statistics Jersey will meet the costs from its financial resources. Where those resources are not sufficient, Statistics Jersey will notify the Government Accountable Officer. The Government Accountable Officer will meet the costs.

Indemnity

52. Article 21A of the Law limits the liability of Statistics Jersey in respect of loss resulting from reliance on information or statistics produced in the discharge, or purported discharge, of any of their functions under the Law. Furthermore, the Government's Liability Insurance programme, including Officials' Indemnity, will extend to provide indemnity to the Chief Statistician and their Office subject to the relevant policy terms and conditions.

Appendix 1: Role descriptions

Role description for Chief Statistician

The responsibilities and functions of Chief Statistician are set out in Article 3 of the Statistics and Census (Jersey) Law 2018. The Chief Statistician is responsible for the collection and processing of data for statistical or research purposes in accordance with the law, including:

- providing statistical reports of interest to, and which assist with decision making;
- assisting those responsible for public policy development and the delivery of public services;
- coordinating and avoiding unnecessary duplication of requests for information; and
- publicly commenting as the Chief Statistician thinks fit on any aspects of statistics.

The Chief Statistician will provide strategic leadership and direction to Statistics Jersey, and expert technical knowledge and skills to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of Statistics Jersey's statutory functions in accordance with legislation. The Chief Statistician will also work to ensure the effective operation and performance of Statistics Jersey.

The Chief Statistician is the Government's senior advisor on statistics. As head of the statistical profession within the Government of Jersey, the Chief Statistician will support the career and professional development of statisticians and analysts in government; upholding the independence of the Jersey Statistical System; and the adoption of high professional statistical standards across the Jersey Statistical System.

Appendix 2: Membership of Statistics Jersey

Membership of Statistics Jersey

- a) As per the Law, Statistics Jersey is the Office of the Chief Statistician. The Chief Statistician is an independent corporation sole.
- b) The Government Accountable Officer is not a member of Statistics Jersey (nor shall they participate in any Statistics Jersey decision making forum). The Government Accountable Officer may provide advice to help inform Statistics Jersey or may comment on Statistics Jersey decisions but, as an independent body, Statistics Jersey will make its own decisions.
- c) The Government Accountable Officer, or any delegates of the Government Accountable Officer, may be invited to attend Statistics Jersey meetings on an ad-hoc basis but only in an advisory or consultative capacity.
- d) Statistics Jersey staff will uphold the decisions of the Chief Statistician, even where those decisions are at odds with States of Jersey or Government of Jersey public policy, except for where they contradict the Public Finances Manual or States Employment Board policies and procedures. In the event that Statistics Jersey staff are instructed by the Chief Statistician to enact a decision or take any action which is contrary to Law, or the policies or procedures of Statistics Jersey, employees should escalate the matter to the Government Accountable Officer. The Government Accountable Officer will determine what action to take, having first informed the Chief Statistician of their intentions.

Signatories to Framework AgreementChief Statistician

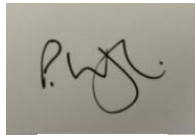
Name: Ian Cope

Signature 

Date 18 December 2025

Government Accountable Officer, Cabinet Office

Name: Paul Wylie

Signature 

Date 18/12/2025