

COVID-19 Recovery Ministerial Group

1. Purpose

In response to the COVID-19 crisis the Government Plan 2022 provided a Health and Social Recovery Allocation for a two-year period to provide support and resources to address the wider impacts that the pandemic has had on our Islander's wider health and social wellbeing. Oversight for approved health and social recovery projects exists through the normal mechanisms of Executive Leadership Team, Individual Ministers, and the Council of Ministers and, as appropriate, to the States Assembly.

The aim of the COVID Recovery Ministerial Group (CRMG) is to provide coordinated political direction and assist with the research, planning, delivery and monitoring of health and social recovery projects and outcomes. The group will be provided with progress reports, data, analysis and advice on projects and will consider use of resources and where necessary re-allocation of budgets. This will deliver a political governance structure that produces coordinated outcomes.

2. Background

A COVID Recovery Political Oversight Group was established on 20th September 2021 through Ministerial Decision of the Chief Minister. The group met quarterly, with presentations given on the indirect impacts of the pandemic and a breadth of project options across government departments to support those Islanders most impacted by the pandemic. The Ministerial group supported 8 projects for funding from the allocation for both 2022, 2023. An overview of the projects can be found on [gov.je](https://www.gov.je)

3. Main functions

The Group will hold scheduled quarterly meetings with the aim of providing advice-

1. To provide direction and challenge to the health and social recovery programme within Government including the development, ongoing funding and monitoring of approved health and social recovery projects.
2. The group will receive presentations and reporting on progress, impact and outcomes on benefit from Islanders on Department Projects to:
 - review and re-direct project funding from the Health and Social Recovery allocation to relevant Ministers, government departments and to the appointed Accountable Officer to ensure investment outcomes are achieved.
 - Identify, evaluate and prioritise projects work that meet the criteria for health and social recovery to deliver improvements that support recovery outcomes
 - Identify and consider future challenges that longer term harms caused by the pandemic might have on health and social outcomes.
 - Review available population and service data and consideration of new metrics and intelligence that improves actionable insight to support better decision-making.

Council of Ministers Ministerial Group Terms of Reference



4. Membership

Chair: Assistant Chief Minister, Lucy Stephenson

Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services, Rose Binet

Assistant Minister for Treasury and Resources, Richard Vibert

Assistant Minister for Education/Children & Home Affairs, Louise Doublet

Assistant Minister for Social Security, Malcolm Ferey

5. Meeting Frequency

Meetings will be quarterly, or more frequently by request of Ministers.

6. Record Keeping and Reporting

- The Group will be quorate when three Ministers are present, one of which must be the Chair or their designate.
- Agendas and papers for each Group meeting will be circulated at least 72 hours (3days) in advance.
- Meetings will be minuted. Secretarial support, recording of decisions and meeting arrangements will be managed by the Cabinet Office.
- The Terms of Reference for the Group will be approved by a Ministerial Decision of the Chief Minister and published on the Government of Jersey website.

7. Roles and responsibilities

- Ministers will remain fully responsible for the legislation and services under their direct political responsibility.
 - The CRMG will have no powers in Law, but will guide the CRMG membership as to the exercise of those powers held individually.
- Ministers will respect a “no surprises” policy - ensuring that the Group is consulted and advised in advance of significant policy or operational decisions within the remit of the group.
- The Group will be supported by officials to the same standards and applying similar practices as they would apply in supporting individual Ministers.
- In doing this, officials will produce reports and provide free and open access to information to members of the Group, save for any data protection limitations, as requested.
- Group members will respect the impartiality of officials and maintain the confidentiality of any information or advice provided, in so far as this is not already in the public domain or intended to be placed in the public domain.

8. Modification of terms and membership

The CRMG may modify these terms by agreement of members.

If relevant functions pass to Ministers other than those identified, the relevant Minister or designate will be a member of the CRMG.