

Jersey press release on the failure of its tax system

Published: January 13, 2026, 4:09 am

This is the press release Jersey will be issuing [on the failure of its tax system](#) to comply with the requirements of the EU Code of Conduct on Business Taxation:

Chief Ministers in meeting with HM Treasury

The Chief Ministers of Jersey and Guernsey met the Financial Secretary to HM Treasury yesterday. During the meeting, which was held following the annual dinner for Crown Dependencies, the Chief Ministers discussed how the economic crisis is rapidly changing international norms for the regulation of the finance industry and particularly for taxation.

Ministers discussed the possibility that a new business tax regime may be proposed before the EU Code Group* has formally considered the 0/10 tax regimes of all the Crown Dependencies. The views of EU Member States seem to be evolving, and it appears that some Member States are increasingly unlikely to accept that the fiscal regimes in the Crown Dependencies are fully compliant with the EU Code of Conduct on Business Taxation.

Following the meeting Senator Terry Le Sueur said: “We have worked well, with the UK’s support, in implementing the zero-ten corporation tax system. It is clear that we will need to continue to work in partnership with the UK on engagement with EU Member States so we can maintain a viable and competitive tax system supported by our European neighbours.

“I am fully committed to ensuring Jersey’s regulatory standards and tax structures remain compliant with emerging global attitudes and standards. We have already announced a comprehensive review of our fiscal strategy, and we are pleased to announce that the Treasury Ministers of Jersey and Guernsey have decided to work closely together on this.

“Our meeting yesterday was very helpful. It is a very positive step that the two islands

will now be working together. It will ensure that any changes that may arise from our Fiscal Strategy Reviews are consistent with the EU Code of Conduct on Business Taxation and are in line with our European good neighbour policy.”

Jersey’s Treasury Minister, Senator Philip Ozouf, said: “I am committed to working more closely with Guernsey, so I am particularly pleased that we are now going to cooperate on our fiscal strategy reviews. This means we will be able to share resources and research costs, and approach our European neighbours together. Working in combination will help us to develop strategies that are right for our individual circumstances, but which are also complementary.”

The ministers have agreed that in order to ensure sustainable public finances and to support their economic objectives, the islands need to assess their options carefully. Senator Ozouf added: “The unprecedented change in the world economy is leading many countries to re-appraise their tax systems. New international norms for business taxation will evolve, and both Jersey and Guernsey must be ready and able to respond to those changes. We believe conducting a joint Fiscal Strategy Review will help us achieve this.”

Senator Le Sueur is keeping States members informed of developments and these matters will be discussed with the Council of Ministers tomorrow.

You know things are bad when Jersey is talking to Guernsey.

You know too that things are bad when they’re looking to each other to get themselves out of the mess they could have avoided.

And when things are that bad it’s very, very clear that the PR has failed — the tide is coming in to overtake them and no Canute act by Le Sueur, Ozouf or anyone else can stop that happening now.

Pity they didn’t [**heed the warnings**](#).