

ISLE OF MAN GOVERNMENT

REILTYS ELLAN VANNIN

Department of Environment, Food & Agriculture
 Rheynn Chymmyltaght, Bee as Eiriny's

Department Plan Update 2025
 Plan y Rheynn 2025



Our Island Plan: Plan yn Ellan Ain:

Building A Secure, Vibrant And
 Troggal Traa Ry-Heet Shickyr,
 Sustainable Future For Our Island
 Breeoil As Fondagh Son Yn Ellan Ain

Glossary

ADS	Agriculture Development Scheme
ASSI	Area of Special Scientific Interest
BAPs	Biodiversity Action Plans
DEFA	Department of Environment, Food & Agriculture
DESC	Department of Education, Sport & Culture
DHSC	Department of Health & Social Care
DfE	Department for Enterprise
DPO	Development Procedure Order
EES	Energy Efficiency Scheme
ESG	Environmental, Sustainability and Governance
EU	European Union
EUTA	European Union and Trade Act
FALD	Forestry, Amenity & Lands Directorate
HSWI	Health and Safety at Work Inspectorate
ICCAT	International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna
IOM	Isle of Man
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MCS	Marine Conservation Society
OFT	Office of Fair Trading
P&BC	Planning & Building Control
RTLC	Road Transport Licensing Committee
SAP	Standard Assessment Procedure
TBC	To be confirmed
UK	United Kingdom
UKHSA	United Kingdom Health Security Agency
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization
WLP	Wildlife Park

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Minister & Members' Foreword

Goan-toshee yn Chirveishagh as Olteynyn



Hon Clare Barber MHK
Department Minister



Mrs Tanya August-Phillips MLC
Department Member



Mr Lawrie Hooper MHK
Department Member

As the Political Board for the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture, we are committed to working to deliver the best outcomes for our communities, our environment, our economy and, ultimately, our Biosphere.

The UNESCO Biosphere reserve status accorded to our Island recognises that, as an Island, we seek to balance in harmony the interests of our communities, our environment and our economy, and it is our role to embody, celebrate and promote this. During the forthcoming year, we are looking forward to the new Biosphere Board focusing on enhancing our community engagement and communication, celebrating our achievements, valuing what is special about our Island, as well as nurturing further development where needed. A key focus for the Board and ourselves will be delivering all of the relevant data and information to UNESCO for our periodic review, so that we can look forward to the next 10 years as a UNESCO Biosphere.

This plan shares the Department's achievements of the past 12 months and sets out the priorities for the final year of delivery for this Department Plan.

In late 2024, we successfully brought the Agricultural Strategy and Food Security Plan through Tynwald. Our vision under the Agricultural Strategy is for the Island's Agriculture Sector to be innovative, strong and sustainable, while our vision for the Food Security Plan is for our Island nation to have a strong, dependable and responsive approach to ensuring the Island population has access to nutritious food. We are committed to ensuring the Department delivers on these aspirations and want to acknowledge the fantastic work we see every day across our Island, as people, families and businesses demonstrate huge commitment and passion for our Island as encapsulated in the strategy and plan.

In the past 12 months the Department has also delivered significant improvements to the planning system, with Tynwald approving a wide range of improvements to the Town and Country Planning Act, as well as a number of regulatory frameworks, all with a view to streamlining the process for homeowners and others on the Island.

In more recent times, the Department has had to deal with the overwhelming damage that was inflicted on our plantations and glens by a number of storms we experienced, particularly Storm Darragh. We are committed to reaching a position where all of our plantations and glens are open to the Island again, which we recognise will take time and a lot of hard work.

Everyone within DEFA is committed to making a positive influence and ensuring our Island continues to have safe, healthy and sustainable communities that people can live within.

Finally, we would like to give our thanks for the hard work and effort from all of the teams at DEFA. We are privileged to see first-hand the commitment within the Department to making a positive difference and ensuring our Island continues to have a safe, healthy and sustainable community that people can live within.

Chief Officer Introduction

Goan-foshlee yn Ard-offishear



Tim Cowsill

I am proud to have been appointed as the Chief Officer of the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (DEFA) this summer. During my first few months I have been pleased to have been able to meet our hard working and committed teams, and many of our enthusiastic and passionate stakeholders, and to have had the opportunity to review this Department Plan, taking into account feedback and input from all.

I am mindful of the point in time at which I have joined the Department, and that the Political commitments given during this administration are to be fulfilled, I am keen that this Plan outlines those commitments and gives assurance of delivery, as well as providing an anchor point for our teams in the daily work that they do. It is also important to highlight the Department's commitment to wider Government's Efficiencies Programme. The Department is developing a series of initiatives which will significantly support Government's wider efficiencies ambitions which will be released shortly.

I have been struck by the diverse range of policy areas for the Department and the complex and scientific topics it interfaces with, and I have gained a huge respect for all our teams, who with their knowledge, skills and qualifications enable us to deliver so much to our community and for our Island.

I have quickly become familiar with the priorities for the Department and see that the focus for the Department in the coming year must be on delivering Offshore Wind and supporting the Agricultural sector.

This Department strives to make a positive, tangible difference for the Island and this updated Department Plan presents some of the key highlights and examples of the work that DEFA has undertaken this year and is planning to achieve over the year ahead.

In conjunction with our Minister and our Political Members, I am incredibly proud to present DEFA's updated Department Plan for 2025, where the committed staff in DEFA, working with all of our partners and stakeholders, will continue to strive to leave our Island in a better state than we found it.



About Us

Mychione Ain

The Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (DEFA) supports and works with people and communities across the Island, to improve and protect the Island's natural and built environment and resources, as well as its people. This includes the food we catch, produce and eat, the homes, buildings, spaces and conditions we live and work within, the air we breathe, the water we drink, and our native land, soil and sea.

We support the whole chain of production and trade to help grow the Island's economy, improve the environment, protect the Isle of Man from harmful pests and diseases, strengthen the built environment, and encourage our communities to make the best choices when it comes to, among other things, animal welfare, workplace health and safety, our biosphere, climate change and energy efficiency.

We are dedicated to safeguarding and enriching the natural and built assets of our Island, guided by the core principles of environmental, economic, and social sustainability. Our aim is to enhance the quality of life for our community while ensuring the Island's international reputation, food production and food security, energy security, nature-based carbon sequestration, biodiversity, biosecurity and outdoor amenity are optimised.

Our teams actively collaborate with all sectors of the Manx community to preserve and improve the fundamental elements of life - food, air, health and well-being, land and water - while minimising the impact of work activities, food-borne and infectious diseases on the people who live, work, and visit our Island.

As the policy-making body responsible for a diverse range of areas, DEFA covers topics including - but not limited to - animal health and welfare, biodiversity, ecosystems, energy, environmental protection, farming, fisheries, food, forestry, and planning & building control. We recognise the interconnectedness of these areas and strive to ensure a holistic and integrated approach.

Furthermore, the Department takes the lead in the UNESCO Biosphere, actively promoting the vision of "an Island where people and the rest of nature have a sustainable future." The ambitions associated with this vision ultimately aim to benefit the Isle of Man's economy, environment, and community.

We are committed to serving the needs of our community and fostering a friendly and professional environment in all our interactions.



Our Areas of Responsibility

Ny Curmyn as Obbyr Ain



Regulatory Services Sponsored by the Department

DEFA supplies staff and resources through service level agreements to operate the legally separate bodies of the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) and the Road Transport Licensing Committee (RTLC) which also operate from the Thie Slieau Whallian site in St Johns. DEFA is the political sponsor for the OFT and RTLC. This plan does not include objectives or actions for OFT or RTLC.

Office of Fair Trading

The OFT is an Independent Statutory Board which works to provide the appropriate legislation, advice, and compliance services to benefit and protect our Island's consumers and businesses from unfair trading practices.

Road Transport Licensing Committee

The RTLC is an independent body of government with responsibility for regulating the operators, vehicles and drivers who transport passengers on public roads as well as regulating goods vehicles over 3,500kg and the people who operate them.

Our People - 210.74

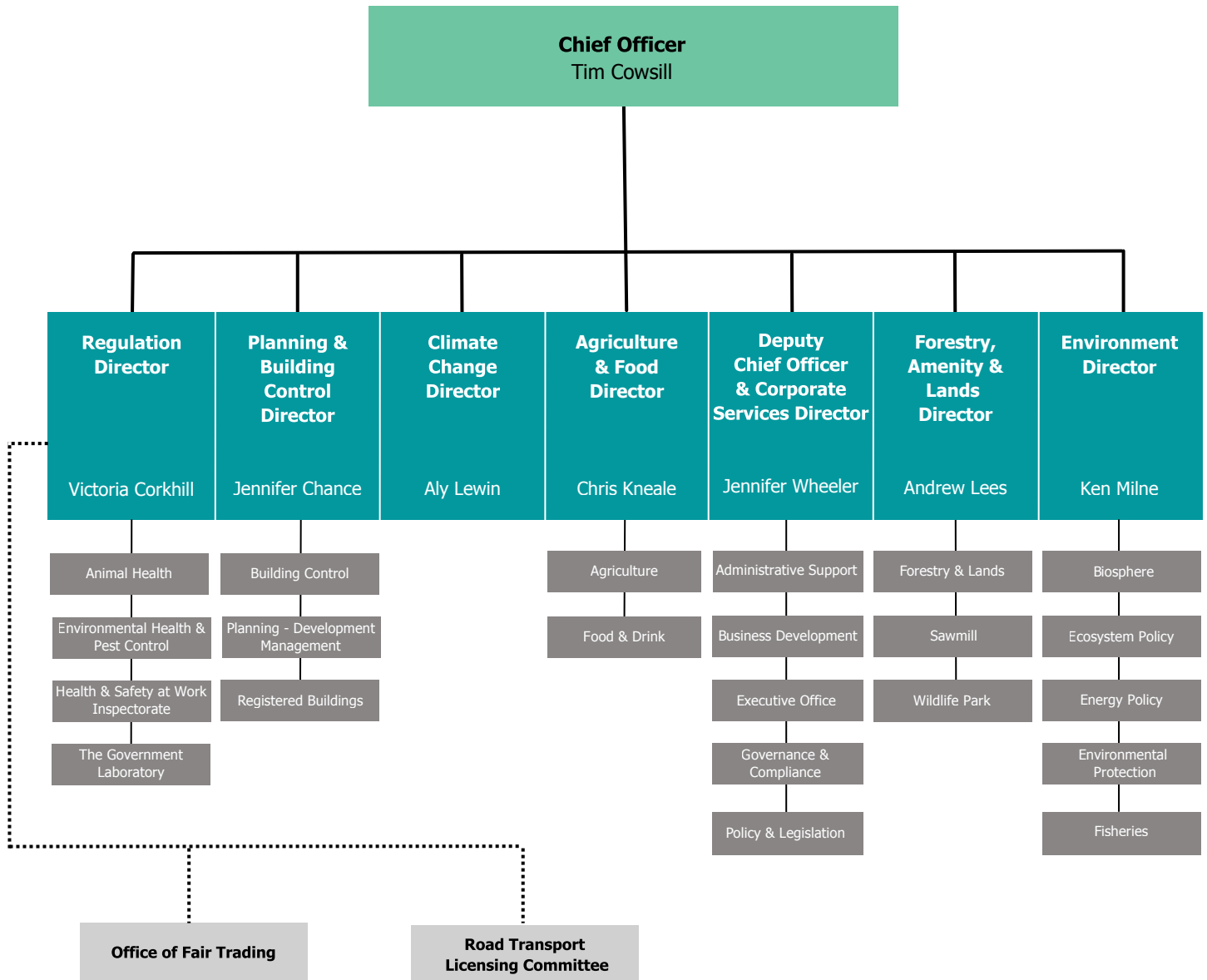
Yn Pobble Ain - 210.74

Figures reflect the full time equivalent for the number of employees across the Department and are accurate as of 30 June 2025. Quarterly updates are included in the Overview of the Public Service Workforce report - [link to the latest report \(April to June 2025\)](#).



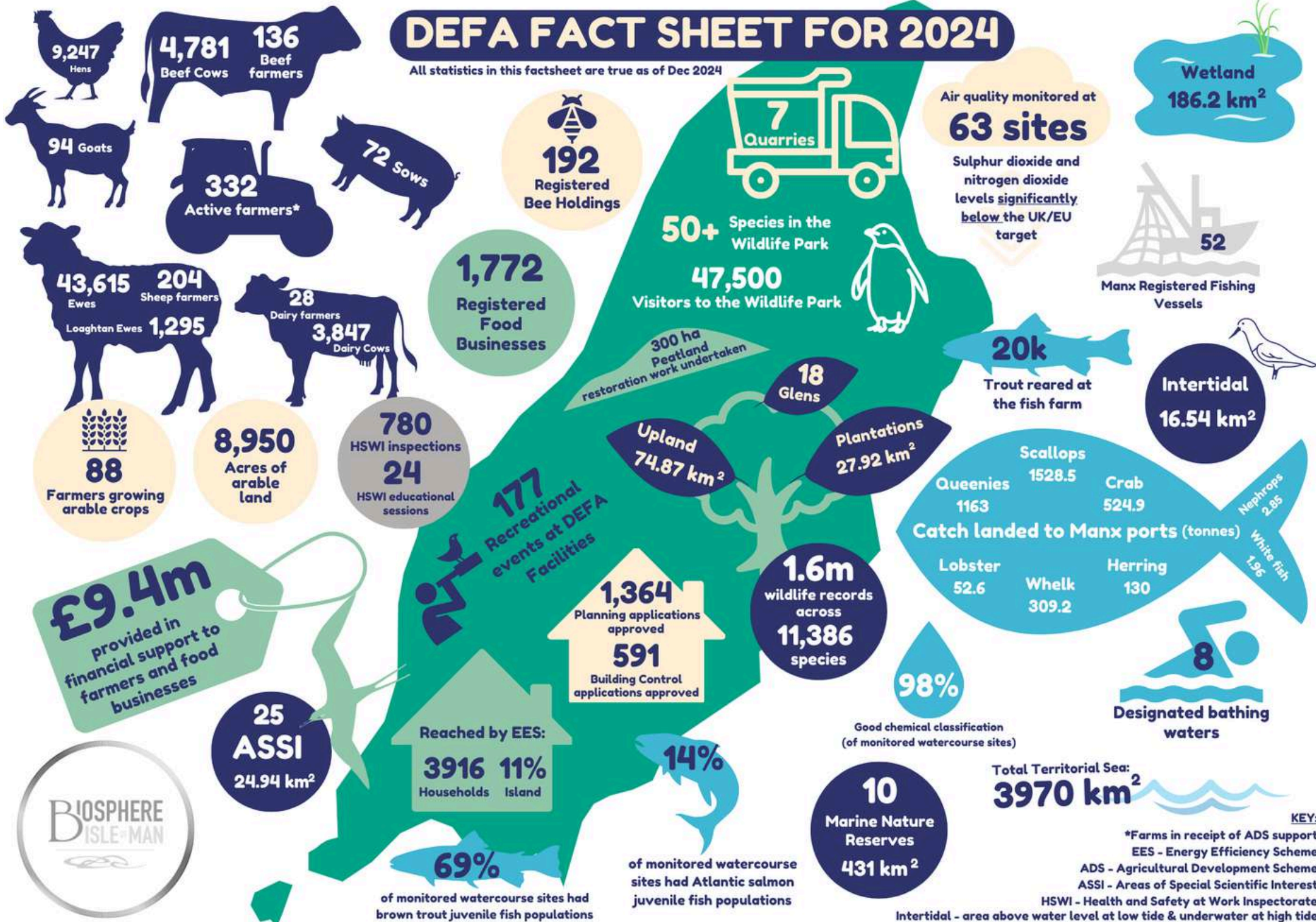
Our Structure

Yn Strughtoor Ain



DEFA FACT SHEET FOR 2024

All statistics in this factsheet are true as of Dec 2024



Achievements

Reddyn Coilleenit



Island Plan Completed Actions

Obbyr Jeant er Plan yn Eilan

- Delivered the Energy Strategy annual update, Agricultural Strategy 2024, and the Food Security Plan 2024 to Tynwald in November 2024.
- Delivered the Climate Change Annual Report to Tynwald in June 2025.



Climate Change

Caghlaa Emshyraght

- Achieved our KPIs for Carbon Literacy training with 500+ staff starting or completing training.
- Brought in a ban for fossil fuel heating systems in new buildings from the 1st January 2025.
- By the end of March, 79% of Climate Change funding had been spent on improving people's homes, improving efficiencies and helping to reduce energy bills.
- Supported the Airport Division of the Department of Infrastructure in obtaining a Carbon Footprint Report and Carbon Management Plan for Ronaldsway Airport to apply for Level 2 Airport Carbon Accreditation.
- Supported the Isle of Man TT Races with an emissions and sustainability audit in accordance with their Strategic Plan.



Planning & Building Control

Plannal as Gurneil Troggal

- For the 12 months prior to 1st September 2025:
 - 1160 planning applications determined, 226 subject to amendments with an 89% overall approval rate.
 - Over 100 applications to discharge conditions approved.
 - Approx 700 Building Control applications received.
 - Approx 3000 building control site inspections carried out.
 - 590 completion certificates issued.
- The Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 2025 has been granted Royal Assent and the DEFA provisions will be commenced before the end of Q1 2026.
- The updated Town and Country Planning (Development Procedure) Order 2019 and the Amended Planning Application and Appeals Fees Order came into force on 1st August 2024.
- Three Orders approved for the Permitted Development Review by Tynwald in February 2025. This will streamline the process for smaller proposals within Conservation Areas.
- New planning website and updated online services make it easier for applicants to submit and track applications, and for consultees and local residents to view and comment.



Agriculture & Food

Eiryns as Bee

- Successfully delivered £7.6 million pounds of support to the agricultural and food industry.
- Introduced a farm carbon calculator to help increase the industry's understanding and awareness of their carbon footprint.
- Introduced the SoilMentor app and held four on farm meetings to help farmers understand how to improve soil health.
- Facilitated the collection of the Islands Wool Clip, partnering with British Wool who are developing an Isle of Man Wool brand.
- Hosted two food and drink tents at the agricultural shows with over 20 different food businesses showcasing their produce.
- Hosted a Meet the Producer event with DfE.
- Continued to support food businesses transitioning with SALSA accreditations.
- Continued to deliver positive Environmental and Climate Change mitigation actions via the Agri-Environment Scheme.



Forestry, Amenity & Lands

Keylljyn, Buill-hoccar as Thallooyn

- Exporting of timber to the UK via standing sales.
- Clearance of multiple Glens and Plantations after storms, however some still remain closed.
- The Sawmill has seen a reduced cost of timber harvesting for products alongside continued sales growth, with March 2025 seeing the largest sales recorded since opening.
- Volunteers from Barclays Bank helped with replanting in Barroose Plantation, converting the even aged conifer plantation into ancient semi natural broadleaved woodland.
- Increased use of the Glens and Plantations for events.
- Various significant milestones have been achieved for the Manx Peatland Partnership:
 - Three volunteer sessions were organised to spread heather brash and install coir netting and logs.
 - Over 500 hectares surveyed in recent months and over 6800 hectares in total.
 - Restoration work carried out on over 300 hectares of degraded, eroding peatland.
 - Positive social media engagement with the project has continued, a website has been soft launched and a short film is also being produced.
 - Surveyed areas are now published on the IUCN website and peatland data is being shared with the UK emissions inventory.
 - The Biodiversity Action Plan for blanket bog habitats has been published.
 - Successful site visits undertaken with prospective partners at Beinn-y-Phott.
 - Curraghs Wildlife Park has installed a pay for play, recouping a third of investment within the first six months; replaced the owl aviaries; and have celebrated the birth of two flamingo chicks, one yellow mongoose and two penguin chicks.



Environment

Chymmlytaght

- Continued strong delivery of the Energy Efficiency Scheme, reaching over 11% of homes and winning the environment prize at the Awards for Excellence for its success.
- Launched the Isle of Man Fisheries Statement which lays out a strategic framework for the sustainable management of sea fisheries in the Isle of Man territorial sea.
- Published the Isle of Man River Water Invertebrate review 2020 – 2022, using the new Isle of Man River Invertebrate Classification Tool (RICT) developed by APEM for the Department.
- Created a new Biosphere Board with independent chair.
- Published the following:
 - A review on ASSI designations.
 - The assessment of Isle of Man monitoring data against OSPAR hazardous substances thresholds.
 - Onshore Windfarm Scoping report.
 - Bathing Water report.
 - Juvenile Trout and Atlantic Salmon Monitoring Programme report.
 - 61 biodiversity action plans.
 - 156,825 biodiversity records onto NBN Atlas.
- Refurbished an on-site building, at the fish hatchery at Cornaa, to allow for the restorative stocking of Atlantic salmon as part of a targeted programme to boost struggling populations in the Island's rivers.



Regulation

Gurneil

- Continued to bring forward a series of legislative measures to protect the Isle of Man's livestock from infectious animal diseases circulating in the UK and EU.
- Tightened legislation around the importation of Bees and bee equipment to protect the Manx Bee population from invasive diseases.
- Undertook a Radon survey and produced a map of the Island to inform home-owners, occupiers, landlords and employers of the potential Radon risk in and to encourage mitigation of any health risks.
- Introduced a new Food Safety Programme to empower FBOs to take appropriate measures, via a series of workshops, a newsletter, a new proactive risk-based inspection programme and an ongoing response plan.
- Around 1,200 HSWI service requests, concerns and other reports dealt with.
- An updated Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 was applied in 2024.
- The Government Laboratory maintained its UKAS accreditation for testing services until 2028 and also received a Platinum accreditation from My Green Lab for its sustainability measures.
- The Competition and Markets functions of the Office of Fair Trading were transferred to the Communications and Utilities Regulatory Authority (CURA) to group together Economic Regulation responsibilities and improve resilience.

DEFA's Climate Change Commitments

Gialdynnyssyn Caghlaa Emshiraght

The Department delivers on three different levels towards Isle of Man Government's commitments to net zero.

1

The Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture significantly supports, leads and enables change across our Island to deliver the [Climate Change Plan 2022-2027](#), through the climate change transformation team who are stationed within the Department.

2

As a Government Department, DEFA is obliged to report on its own carbon emissions, through the [public body reporting framework](#). The Department is also implementing the Climate Impact Assessment and continuing support for our teams to complete the Carbon Literacy training.

3

Our teams across the Department are also playing a role in emissions reduction through our own policies, and direct implementation of the actions in the plan itself.

Island Plan Delivery

Cur ayns Bree Plan yn Ellan Ain

An updated version of Our Island Plan for 2025-26 sets out six clear redefined strategic priorities for the year:



Energy security



**Public Sector Efficiency
and Financial Discipline**



**More Homes
Occupied**



The Economy



Travel Connectivity



Security

The following actions are assigned to the Department through the Island Plan:

Strategic Programme	Milestones	*RAG Status
Building Great Communities		
Built Environment Reform Programme	Create a more effective planning environment for the public and industry.	Blue
	Improve the planning process: Provide a modern and responsive service.	Blue
An environment we can be proud of		
Climate Change Plan	Climate Change - Annual Report to Tynwald (then each July from 2024).	Green
	Launch new scheme to support Island residents to make their homes more energy efficient.	Red
Energy Strategy	Annual Energy Strategy Update.	Yellow
Environment Strategy	Updated environmental protection policies and associated legislation presented to Tynwald.	Yellow
	Undertake and complete a trial for year round air quality monitoring (2 year trial).	Green
UNESCO Biosphere Periodic Review	UNESCO Biosphere Periodic Review.	Green
Agricultural Strategy	Publish a Plan for the Future of Agriculture.	Blue
Food Security Strategy	Develop and publish a Plan for Food Security.	Blue

The timescale for delivery and progress against delivery of these actions is reported quarterly, and any changes to milestones or target completion dates are included in the update. For further information visit: [Islandplan.im](https://islandplan.im)

*For RAG Status definitions see Appendix 1.

2025/26 Department Objectives

2025/26 Deanyrn y Rheynn

The 2025/26 Department Objectives are included below. Updates on the Quarterly RAG status and amendments to the 2024/25 Objectives are noted on pages 20-21.

Department Objective	Target Completion Date
Agriculture & Food	
Develop a new plan for the Knowledge Exchange Programme.	Q1 2026
Deliver a Food and Drink Marketing Campaign with DfE.	Q1 2026
Start consulting on a replacement Food Matters Strategy.	Q2 2026
Set up the Food Chain Board to support and protect the Island's Food Security strategy.	Q2 2026
Develop a Long-Term Vision for the Meat Plant.	Q2 2026
Climate Change	
Publish the Land Management Framework.	Q2 2026
Develop and deliver a new scheme to provide the benefits of the net zero transition into Island homes, replacing existing energy efficiency support schemes.	Q2 2026
Publish a Climate Change Progress report which also provides a review of the overall Climate Change Plan period (2022-2026) to date.	Q2 2026
Corporate Services	
Review and report to Cabinet Office on all DEFA & OFT retained EU legislation as required by Section 11 of the EUTA 2019.	Q3 2025
Develop and enhance the Department's Enforcement Policy.	Q2 2026
Environment	
Review the Biodiversity Strategy Actions with regard to the Global Biodiversity Framework.	Q4 2025
Undertake a review of the commercial Sea Fisheries sector.	Q2 2026
Review the Departments' quota management frameworks as applied to the king scallop and queen scallop fisheries.	Q2 2026
Create a framework that enables and supports the development of management plans for the island's Marine Nature Reserve Network.	Q2 2026
Bring forward the Single Use Vaping Products Regulations.	Q2 2026
Biosphere Periodic Review to be completed ready for submission to UNESCO.	Q2 2026

Department Objective	Target Completion Date
Forestry, Amenity & Lands	
Develop a vision and plan for the Wildlife Park.	Q2 2026
Publish Departmental Approved Plantation Management plans for the DEFA estate.	Q1 2026
Planning & Building Control	
Review and develop our policy and secondary legislation on registered buildings, ensuring the right balance between protecting heritage and enabling economic progress.	Q4 2025
Implement changes to the Town and Country Planning Act and secondary legislation.	Q1 2026
Bring forward proposals to further improve Building Regulations.	Q2 2026
Review options for planning application fees.	Q2 2026
Regulation	
Work with UKHSA to complete the Radon survey of IOM homes and DEFA workplaces and develop a Radon Map of the Isle of Man. Provide construction industry with upskilling opportunities to prepare for potential demand for Radon mitigation works. Start to co-ordinate support and advice for home owners on mitigation activities that can be undertaken to reduce exposure to Radon for Island residents.	Q4 2025
Start to consult and bring forward Health and Safety legislation to prepare for the regulation of offshore wind activities.	Q4 2025
Update the Bovine Identification and Traceability System to provide a reliable and functional system that will fulfil our legal obligations, ensure food safety and enable trade to continue.	Q1 2026
Undertake risk assessments and water testing on private supplies in commercial premises and produce a private drinking water report.	Q1 2026
Consult on the Animal Welfare (Licencing of Activities involving animals) Regulations.	Q1 2026
Develop and introduce charges for pest control services.	Q2 2026
Develop an improved food hygiene scheme.	Q2 2026

*Additional Objectives	
Deliver a new Food Labelling / Geographical Indicator for Manx produce.	
Consult on the principles of sheep worrying legislation.	
Engage with stakeholders to ensure compliance with upcoming changes to regulations relating to Illegal, Unauthorised and Unregulated fishing (IUU).	
Explore options for reducing the potential impacts that recreational angling may have on Atlantic salmon, working collaboratively with the Recreational Fisheries Management Board.	

*The Department would like to progress with these additional objectives but there may not be resource to prioritise these within this administration.

Key Performance Indicators

Cowraghyn Cooilleenee Smoo

Scanshoil

Key Performance Indicator *To be monitored for 2025/26	Measure	RAG Status as of:				Update as of July 2025 (previous figures as of July 2024)
		Oct '24	Jan '25	Apr '25	Jul '25	
*Strengthen sector resilience through strategic engagement, education, and innovation	Deliver at least 6 events annually that engage, inform, upskill, or assist the Food and Farming sector					8 events held This KPI and measure have been updated since publication of the 2024 Plan
Encourage innovation and entrepreneurial behaviour in the agriculture sector	Support/host at least 4 events/activities in the next 12 months					4 events held
Ensure that commercial harvests of king scallops are effectively regulated through a comprehensive management plan, taking account of the advice provided by the Department's independent scientific advisor and the Isle of Man Scallop Management Board	Publish end of season report on the king scallop fishery including monitoring of uptake and landings per unit effort					End of season report published July 2025
Publish biodiversity action plans (BAPs) which form an agreed list of priorities that aim to help protect and preserve key habitats and species	Total of 25 BAPs published					Previously 19, now 61 BAPs
*Increase the number of households benefitting from Energy Efficiency support	Reach a further 1,000 homes					Previously 3,447, now 4,074 homes
Increase the number of visitor counters at key locations to understand recreation usage to evaluate further investment opportunities	Install a further 10 counters across 3 sites before January 2025					All visitor counters installed at key locations
*Wildlife Park visitor numbers increased	Wildlife Park visitor numbers increased by at least 5%					Rolling 12 months to Jul-25: 49,222. Previous: 48,907.
*Demonstrate technical competence in the government lab by maintaining the annual proficiency testing rate	Achieve annual proficiency testing failure rate of less than 5%					Remain under 5% on a 12 month rolling average
*Improve efficiency of determination of simple (Type 1 and 2) planning applications	Increase speed of determination of simple applications					Previously 65% determined in 8 weeks. Improved to 73% determined
Demonstrate efficiency in Building Control site inspections	Time taken to undertake site inspections – within 2 days of request, except drainage and completions – within 5 days					100% inspections undertaken within target time
*Increase the number of public service officers trained in Carbon Literacy	Increase the number of staff who are Carbon Literate to 7%					Previously 4%. Target of 5% achieved

Legislative Five Year Programme

Claare-obbyr Slattyssagh son

Queig Bleeaney

Legislation Title	Purpose	Directorate	Introduction Target Date	Status
Energy Act 2023	To provide measures that will provide additional guarantees of security of gas supply to Island consumers, in light of the ongoing volatility in global energy markets.	Environment	Introduced	Complete
Animal Welfare Act 2023	To overhaul our principal law relating to animal welfare. It will ensure owners and keepers have a duty of care to their companion and kept animals, and animal needs are met. This enabling legislation is aimed at keeping pace with a rapidly evolving landscape of animal welfare law in the UK.	Regulation	Introduced	Complete
Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 2025	To clarify what constitutes development, simplify Conservation Area approvals and improve provision for Registered Buildings.	Planning & Building Control	Q2 2024	Complete
Agricultural Marketing Bill	To review and update the provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Act 1934.	Agriculture & Food	Q4 2025	Removed*
Environmental Protection Bill	To safeguard the Islands natural heritage. It will reflect the Departments commitment to sustainable practices, ensuring that our community remains resilient in the face of environmental challenges.	Environment	Q1 2026	Policy Development

Legislation delivered in 2024/25

- European Union and Trade Act 2019 (Amendments) (DEFA) (Miscellaneous) Regulations 2024
- Movement of Animals (Restrictions) Order 2024
- Animal Health (Bluetongue) (Application) Regulations 2024
- Animal Health (Miscellaneous) (Amendments) Order 2024
- Inland Fisheries (Amendment) Regulations 2024
- Climate Impact Assessment (Amendment) Regulations 2024
- Importation of Bees Order 2025
- Interpretation Act 2015 (Statutory Document Exemption - Animal Importation Declarations) Order 2025
- European Union and Trade Act 2019 (Amendments) (DEFA) (Animal Imports) Regulations 2025
- Agriculture and Fisheries Grant (Amendment) Scheme 2025
- Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) (Amendment) Regulations 2025
- Milk Prices Order 2025

* Other, non-legislative, means of delivering the Agricultural Strategy and Food Security Plan have been identified and are being pursued. The existing suite of Agricultural Marketing Acts is currently not causing issues and will be considered at a later date.

Department Financial Position

Stayd Argidail y Rheynn

Looking ahead to 2025/26 and the forthcoming financial and performance year, the budget provided to the Department, by division, is set out below;

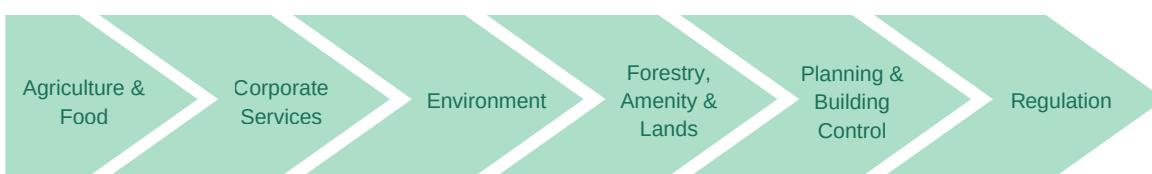
£23,041,000

Gross Expenditure



£4,636,000

Gross Income (variable as demand led)



£18,405,000

Net Expenditure

DEFA GROSS EXPENDITURE 2024/25 (£'000)

 Agriculture & Food	£7,674	£3,538	£3,201	 Planning & Building Control	£1,975
 Forestry, Amenity & Lands	£4,747	 Regulation	 Environment	 Climate Change	 Corporate Services

Please note, the above figures do not include the OFT or RTLC given the status for these services as explained on page 7. The budget provided for these services for 2025/26 is £976 and £186 for gross expenditure and £73 and £51 for gross income for OFT and RTLC respectively (£'000). See the [Pink Book](#) for further information.

Appendix 1. RAG Status Definitions

Colour	RAG Definitions (one or more statement for each criteria determines RAG)
Blue	• Complete • Transferred
Green	• On budget • On time • Expertise and resources available • No bottlenecks or handover delays • No political exposure • No international exposure • Happy stakeholders
Amber	• Significant over budgeting • Significant delays against critical milestones • Lack of expertise or resources • Noticeable bottlenecks • Some political exposure • Some international exposure • Unsatisfied stakeholders
Red	• Serious over budgeting • Serious delays against critical dates • Unacceptable lack of expertise or shortage of resources • Very long delays, unresolvable dependencies and bottlenecks • Serious political exposure • Serious international exposure • Very unhappy stakeholders

Appendix 2. 2024 Department Objective Amendments

Department Objective	Target Completion Date	RAG Status as of:				Amendments for 2025 Department Plan
		Oct-24	Jan-25	Apr-25	Jul-25	
Agriculture and Food						
Continue to deliver the Food Matters Strategy to support the local Food and Drink industry with promotion and support, whilst developing the next strategy. Start consulting on a replacement Food Matters Strategy.	Was: Jun-25 Then: Jan-26					Objective amended as noted and target completion date amended to Q2 2026.
Climate Change						
Facilitate the delivery of the Climate Change Plan 2022 – 2027, reporting on progress, risks and barriers. Publish a Climate Change Action Plan progress report for 2022-2026 outlining key actions for 2026/27.	Dec-27					Objective amended as noted and target completion date amended to Q2 2026.
Produce an annual Progress Report which outlines progress made on emissions reductions, deliverables and targets.	Jul-24					Removing this objective as it is complete.
Implement the Climate Change Act, 2021 to ensure we deliver our statutory targets.	Ongoing					Removing this objective as it is considered business as usual.
Corporate Services						
Develop and enhance the Department's Enforcement Policy.	Was: Nov-24 Then: Sep-25					Target completion date amended to Q2 2026.
Identify the specialist roles and skills shortage within the Department and consider succession management within the Department. Connect with DfE and DESC on an ongoing basis.	Oct-24					Removing this objective as it is complete.
Working with the Cabinet Office in the development of the strategic plan, to consider ways in which the plan can consider sustainable living.	Mar-25					Removing this objective as it is considered business as usual.
Review and report to Tynwald [Cabinet Office] on all DEFA and OFT retained EU legislation as required by Section 11 of the EUTA 2019.	Dec-25					Objective amended to reflect the Department's report being submitted to Cabinet Office who will submit the full report to Tynwald.
Environment						
Develop a long-term management plan for the queen scallop fishery in collaboration with the IOM Scallop Management Board.	Dec-25					Removing this objective as it is not currently a priority for the sector.
Review the species listed in the non-native legislation.	Mar-25					Removing this objective due to no resource to progress this objective.
Develop and deliver a new scheme to provide the benefits of the net zero transition into Island homes, replacing existing energy efficiency support schemes and launching in Q1 2025.	Was: Apr-25 Then: Oct-25					Objective amended to reflect updated target completion date of Q2 2026 and moved under the Climate Change section.
Review the Biodiversity Strategy Actions with regard to the Global Biodiversity Framework.	Jun-25					Target completion date amended to Q4 2025.
Continue to deliver the single use plastic reduction plans.	Dec-25					Removing this objective as it is considered business as usual.

2024 Department Objective Amendments continued

Department Objective	Target Completion Date	RAG Status as of:				Amendments for 2025 Department Plan
		Oct-24	Jan-25	Apr-25	Jul-25	
Environment - continued						
Bring forward Environmental Protection regulations to regulate offshore energy projects and ensure a suitable competent authority is established to oversee the regulation.	Was: Mar-25 Then: Dec-25					This objective has been removed as it is included more broadly in the Island Plan action.
Forestry, Amenity & Lands						
Develop a master [vision and] plan for the wildlife park to ensure its long term sustainable future.	Mar-25					Objective amended to be clear on the vision and the plan with the target completion date amended to Q1 2026,for the vision and Q2 2026 for the plan.
Working with DfE, in particular Visit Isle of Man, support and enable our community and visitors to access, and maximise the benefits from the use of our lands and natural amenities to support leisure, health and wellbeing and increase the visitor economy whilst preserving or enhancing biodiversity.	Mar-25					Removing this objective as it is now considered business as usual.
Agree a sustainable future model for Sulby Claddagh.	Dec-24					Removing this objective as it is complete.
Planning & Building Control						
Review and develop our policy and secondary legislation on registered buildings, ensuring the right balance between protecting heritage and enabling economic progress.	Was: Mar-25 Then: Dec-25					Target completion date amended to Q4 2025.
Bring forward proposals to further improve Building Regulations (such as standards for new builds) by setting the standards to match the new Future Homes Standard being implemented in the UK.	Was: Apr-25 Then: Jun-26					Objective updated and the target completion date amended to Q2 2026.
Regulation						
Update the Bovine Identification and Traceability System to provide a reliable and functional system that will fulfil our legal obligations, ensure food safety and enable trade to continue.	Was: Jul-25 Then: Jan-26					Target completion date amended to Q1 2026.
Work with local businesses to ensure they comply with new Veterinary Medicine Regulations to enable them to continue to trade in Veterinary medicines.	Dec-24					Removing this objective as it is complete.
Undertake risk assessments and water testing on private supplies in commercial premises and produce a private drinking water report.	Dec-24					This objective has been delayed and the private drinking water report will be delivered in Q1 2026.
Review the need for Manx legislation on composting materials.	Sep-25					Removing this objective as it is not currently a priority.
Bring forward Health & Safety regulations to regulate offshore energy projects and ensure a suitable competent authority is established to oversee the regulation. Start to consult and bring forward Health and Safety legislation to prepare for the regulation of offshore wind activities.	Was: Mar-25 Then: Dec-25					Objective updated and the target completion date amended to Q4 2025.
Work with UKHSA to complete the Radon survey of IOM homes and DEFA workplaces and develop a Radon Map of the Isle of Man. Provide construction industry with upskilling opportunities to prepare for potential demand for Radon mitigation works. Start to co-ordinate support and advice for home owners on mitigation activities that can be undertaken to reduce exposure to Radon for Island residents.	Sep-25					Target completion date amended to Q4 2025.



Isle of Man

Government

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