

20 March 2026

Positive preliminary assessment of the satisfactory fulfilment of milestones and targets related to the fourth payment request submitted by Malta on 19 December 2025, transmitted to the Economic and Financial Committee by the European Commission

Executive summary

In accordance with Article 24(2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, on 19 December 2025, Malta submitted a request for payment for the fourth instalment of the non-repayable support. The payment request was accompanied by the required management declaration and summary of audits.

To support its payment request, Malta provided due justification of the satisfactory fulfilment of the 25 out of 26 milestones and targets of the fourth instalment of the non-repayable support, as set out in Section 2.1 of the Council Implementing Decision of 5 October 2021 on the approval of the assessment of the recovery and resilience plan for Malta¹.

For two targets covering a large number of beneficiaries, in addition to the summary documents and official listings provided by Malta, Commission services have assessed a statistically significant sample of individual files. The sample size has been uniformly set at 60, which corresponds to a confidence level of 95% or above in all cases.

In its payment request, Malta has confirmed that measures related to previously satisfactorily fulfilled milestones and targets have not been reversed. The Commission does not have evidence of the contrary. Upon receipt of the payment request, the Commission has assessed on a preliminary basis the satisfactory fulfilment of the relevant milestones and targets. Based on the information provided by Malta, the Commission has made a positive preliminary assessment of the satisfactory fulfilment of 25 out of 26 milestones and targets.

The milestones and targets positively assessed as part of this payment request demonstrate significant steps in the implementation of Malta's Recovery and Resilience Plan. They notably highlight the continuation of the reform momentum in key policy areas. This includes, among others, improving urban mobility, addressing policy recommendations for the wellbeing and integration of foreign workers in the health sector, implementing a legislative framework for the establishment of a Blood, Tissue and Cell Centre, fostering early school leaving prevention measures, reinforcing labour market resilience, ameliorating the national anti-fraud and corruption strategy and the permanent commission against corruption, and refining permit-granting procedures for renewables projects. The milestones and targets also confirm progress towards the completion of investment projects related to the renovation of a public hospital block, medical equipment for the health system, digitalisation of the public administration, electric vehicles for the private and public sectors, and electricity network distribution centres and transmission lines.

By the transmission of this positive preliminary assessment and in accordance with Article 24(4) of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, the Commission asks for the opinion of the Economic and Financial Committee on the satisfactory fulfilment of the relevant milestones and targets.

¹ ST 11941/2021; ST 11941/2021 ADD 1 as amended by ST 11202/2023 and ST 11202/2023 ADD 1; ST 9589/25 INIT; ST 9589/25 ADD 1; ST 9589/25 ADD 1 COR. ST 15661 2025 INIT; ST 15661 2025 ADD 1

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Number and name of the Milestone: 1.20, Contract(s) signed for the renovation of block 1 of Mount Carmel Public Hospital

Related Measure: MT-C[1]-I[2], Investment in the renovation and retrofitting of one public hospital block

Qualitative Indicator: Contract(s) signed

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The investment aims to increase energy efficiency, reduce energy demand, lower carbon emissions, and limit energy waste in one public hospital block. The investment consists of the reduction of primary energy demand (PED) of at least 30% in public buildings and the launch of call for applications for grants targeting the renovation of private sector buildings.

Milestone 1.20 concerns the signature of contracts for the renovation of block 1 of Mount Carmel Public Hospital (hereinafter referred to as “MCPH”).

Milestone 1.20 is the second milestone of the investment, and it follows the completion of milestone 1.19, related to the completion of the Energy Performance Audit at MCPH. It will be followed by target 1.21, related to the reduction of primary energy demand of at least 30% in block 1 of MCPH.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	Summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) has been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Contract Agreement No. CT2381/2019 – Renovation of the load bearing structure of Mount Carmel Hospital to high energy efficiency standards using environmentally friendly construction materials and products.	This Contract Agreement was signed on 2 October 2020 by the Department of Contracts (contracting authority) and BAVA Holdings Ltd. (contractor).
3	Contract Agreement No. CT2477/2020 – Conversion to High Energy Efficiency Standards of Premises in Mount Carmel Hospital, Block 1 using Environmentally Friendly Construction Materials and Products.	This Contract Agreement was signed on 19 April 2022 by the Department of Contracts (contracting authority) and SteelShape Ltd. (contractor).

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

Contract(s) signed for the renovation of block 1 of Mount Carmel Public Hospital.

Two contract agreements were signed for the renovation of block 1 of Mount Carmel Public Hospital (hereinafter referred to as "MCPH").

Contract Agreement No. CT2381/2019 (hereinafter referred to as "Contract Agreement 1") for the renovation of the load bearing structure of MCPH to high energy efficiency standards using environmentally friendly construction materials and products was signed on 2 October 2020 by the Department of Contracts (contracting authority) and BAVA Holdings Ltd. (contractor) (page 5 of evidence 2). Technical Specifications, which, in accordance with paragraph 4 of Contract Agreement 1 (page 3 of evidence 2), are read and construed as part of the contract, indicate that the scope of renovation works under this contract concerns block 1 of MCPH (page 30 of evidence 2). According to the Technical Specifications the renovation works include the "construction of temporary hoarding walls, demolition and removal of part of the unwanted existing walls, slabs, beams, doors, windows, and finishes, and construction of new walls, slabs, beams, staircase, including formation of new doors and windows" (page 30 of evidence 2). Additionally, the roofs, which are described as being in "a consumed state of repair," are to be restored in order to safeguard the building's structural integrity (page 30 of evidence 2). Beyond the structural repairs, the roofs will be waterproofed through the application of a liquid membrane and thermally insulated to reduce energy waste, using expanded polystyrene sheets (pages 45 to 47 of evidence 2).

Contract Agreement No. CT2477/2020 (hereinafter referred to as "Contract Agreement 2") for the conversion of premises in block 1 of MCPH to high energy efficiency standards using environmentally friendly construction materials and products was signed on 19 April 2022 by the Department of Contracts (contracting authority) and SteelShape Ltd. (contractor) (page 6 of evidence 3). In accordance with paragraph 2 of Contract Agreement 2, the scope of works under this contract concerns the refurbishment of two hospital wards (Female Ward 2 and Male Ward 2) in block 1 of MCPH (page 3 of evidence 3). The same paragraph further specifies that the refurbishment works involve building partition walls, installing windows and doors, applying new flooring and wall tiling, painting interiors, and external masonry restoration and steel fixtures, including a wheelchair-accessible lift. The contractor will also install vandal-resistant and anti-ligature services, doors, furniture, and medical equipment, as well as comprehensive electrical systems, such as lighting, fire alarms, and security systems (page 3 of evidence 3). Ventilation and air conditioning systems with separate roof-mounted air handling units (hereinafter referred to as "AHU") will serve the two wards and the isolation rooms (page 3 of evidence 3). Lastly, new water systems, sanitary ware, oxygen medical gas supply, and anti-ligature fire-fighting equipment will be installed (page 3 of evidence 3).

Works under Contract Agreement 1 focuses on the structural consolidation of the building's standing fabric to render it suitable for its intended use (page 30 of evidence 2), and also includes energy-efficiency measures, such as the aforementioned thermal insulation of the building's roofs (pages 45 to 47 of evidence 2). The scope of works under Contract Agreement 2 further expands these energy efficiency measures. For example, the Technical Specifications and the Bill of Quantities, read and construed as part of the contract in accordance with paragraph 4 of Contract Agreement 2 (page 3 of evidence 3) specify, that among other works, the contractor will install double-glazed insulating glass units for new aluminium doors and windows (page 284 of evidence 3); insulate new suspended ceilings and partition walls using extruded polystyrene and mineral-wool board insulation (page 229 to 235 of evidence 3); install interior and exterior LED light fittings and accessories (page 1673 of evidence 3);

and install three AHUs for heating, ventilation and air conditioning, each with a Eurovent Energy Efficiency Rating equivalent to Class A (page 142 of evidence 3).

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Target: 2.5 Bicycle racks and pumps installed in nine of the local councils covered by the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan for the Valletta Region.

Related Measure: MT-C[2]-R[3], Expediting the finalisation and implementation of a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) for the Valletta Region

Quantitative Indicator: Number

Baseline: 0

Target: 9

Time: Q2 2025

1. Context:

The objective of this reform is better transport planning and sustainable mobility solutions. The measure consists of the online publication of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP) for the Valletta Region, as well as the installation of bicycle racks and pumps as eligible interventions under the Plan in nine local councils within the Valletta region.

Target 2.5 concerns the installation of bicycle racks and pumps in nine of the local councils covered by the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan for the Valletta Region.

Target 2.5 is the second and last target of the reform, and it follows the completion of milestone 2.4 related to the online publication of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan for the Valletta Region, setting out eligible interventions to be implemented through the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	Summary document duly justifying how the milestone requirements (including all its constitutive elements) have been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Extract from the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,447, which was published on 30 May 2025.	Government Gazette of Malta notice of the publication of the Government Grant on the purchase of Bicycles, on the conversion of Bicycles to Pedelecs, and the Installation of Bicycle Racks and/or Ancillary Facilities and/or Repair Stations. The grant was published by the Ministry for Transport, Infrastructure and Public Works, together with Transport Malta.
3	Completed application form VEH 081 of the Port Regional Council for the "Grant scheme for the	This completed application form includes information showing that the Port Regional Council filled out and submitted Sections A.1 to

	installation of bicycle racks, bicycle repair stations and ancillary Facilities 2025.”	A.5 for Stage 1 of the grant scheme on 25 August 2025, and Sections B.1 to B.2 for Stage 2 of the grant scheme on 27 January 2026. Completed Section A.3 of the application form shows that the Port Regional Council applied to the grant scheme for the installation of bicycle racks in nine Local Councils.
4	Proposed location of the bicycle rack installation in Birgu Local Council.	This document includes a site map and photographs showing the proposed location of the bicycle rack within Birgu Local Council. It was annexed as a supporting document in Section A.5 of the completed and submitted application form VEH 081.
5	Proposed location of the bicycle rack installation in Bormla Local Council.	This document includes a site map and photographs showing the proposed location of the bicycle rack within Bormla Local Council. It was annexed as a supporting document in Section A.5 of the completed and submitted application form VEH 081.
6	Proposed location of the bicycle rack installation in Fgura Local Council.	This document includes a site map and photographs showing the proposed location of the bicycle rack within Fgura Local Council. It was annexed as a supporting document in Section A.5 of the completed and submitted application form VEH 081.
7	Proposed location of the bicycle rack installation in Isla Local Council.	This document includes a site map and photographs showing the proposed location of the bicycle rack within Isla Local Council. It was annexed as a supporting document in Section A.5 of the completed and submitted application form VEH 081.
8	Proposed location of the bicycle rack installation in Kalkara Local Council.	This document includes a site map and photographs showing the proposed location of the bicycle rack within Kalkara Local Council. It was annexed as a supporting document in Section A.5 of the completed and submitted application form VEH 081.
9	Proposed location of the bicycle rack installation in Paola Local Council.	This document includes a site map and photographs showing the proposed location of the bicycle rack within Paola Local Council. It was annexed as a supporting document in Section A.5

		of the completed and submitted application form VEH 081.
10	Proposed location of the bicycle rack installation in Tarxien Local Council.	This document includes a site map and photographs showing the proposed location of the bicycle rack within Tarxien Local Council. It was annexed as a supporting document in Section A.5 of the completed and submitted application form VEH 081.
11	Proposed location of the bicycle rack installation in Valletta Local Council.	This document includes a site map and photographs showing the proposed location of the bicycle rack within Valletta Local Council. It was annexed as a supporting document in Section A.5 of the completed and submitted application form VEH 081.
12	Proposed location of the bicycle rack installation in Zabbar Local Council.	This document includes a site map and photographs showing the proposed location of the bicycle rack within Zabbar Local Council. It was annexed as a supporting document in Section A.5 of the completed and submitted application form VEH 081.
13	Report containing photographic evidence of the installed bicycle racks and bicycle repair stations. The report was compiled and certified by an architect on 28 January 2026.	<p>A document containing photographic evidence of the bicycle racks and bicycle repair stations as installed at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gnien Ovindoli (location ref. PR002), Tarxien Local Council • Green Corridor (location ref. PR004), Paola Local Council • Triq Hompesh (location ref. PR007), Fgura Local Council • Misrah il-Madonna Medjatrici (location ref. PR008), Zabbar Local Council • Xatt ta' Bormla (location ref. PR010), Bormla Local Council • Xatt Juan B. Azzopardi (location ref. PR013), Isla Local Council • Triq ix-Xatt (location ref. PR014), Kalkara Local Council • Triq il-Kardinal F. Sciberras (location ref. PR016), Birgu Local Council • Triq San Bastjan (location ref. PR017), Valletta Local Council
14	Document containing 17 letters dated 17 December 2025 from Transport Malta, which confirm its acceptance of the Port Regional	The 17 letters from Transport Malta to the Port Regional Council confirm approval of its application and state that Transport Malta will

	Council's application for the installation of bicycle racks.	disburse a one-time grant of EUR 528,78.00 for each of the 17 bicycle rack installations.
15	Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan for the Valletta Region published by Transport Malta in December 2022.	This publication lists the 27 Local Councils that form part of the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan for the Valletta Region.
16	Technical documentation of the installed bicycle racks.	This document specifies the type, model, dimensions, and other relevant technical details of the installed bicycle racks.
17	Technical documentation of the installed bicycle repair stations.	This document specifies the type, model, dimensions, and other relevant technical details of the installed bicycle repair stations. It also confirms that this model is equipped with an integrated bicycle pump.

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

Bicycle racks and pumps shall be installed in nine of the local councils covered by the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan for the Valletta Region

Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, [...] **the installation of bicycle racks and pumps as eligible interventions under the Plan, in nine local councils within the Valletta region.**

Bicycle racks and bicycle pumps, as described in evidence 16 and evidence 17 respectively, were installed in two phases. In the first phase, the Port Regional Council installed the bicycle racks with support from the Government Grant Scheme for the Purchase of Bicycles, the Conversion of Bicycles to Pedelects, and the Installation of Bicycle Racks and/or Ancillary Facilities and/or Repair Stations (hereinafter referred to as the “Grant Scheme”). In the second phase, the Ministry for Transport, Infrastructure and Public Works (hereinafter referred to as “Ministry for Transport”) installed the bicycle pumps at the same locations. The installed bicycle pumps are part of repair stations, which are equipped with a range of tools, including stationary hand pumps fitted with adapters designed to accommodate various types of bicycle valves (page 2 of evidence 17).

With regard to the first phase, the grant scheme was published by the Ministry for Transport, together with Transport Malta (hereinafter referred to as “TM”), in the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,447 on 30 May 2025 (evidence 2). One of the initiatives supported under the grant scheme was the “installation of bicycle racks and/or ancillary facilities and/or repair stations by undertakings established in Malta, Voluntary Organisations, entities, and Local Councils” (page 7217 of evidence 2). Applicants seeking funding under this initiative were required to complete a two-stage application process as evidenced on page 7222 of evidence 2.

One of the applicants that successfully applied under this specific grant initiative was the Port Regional Council. It completed and submitted Sections A.1 to A.5 of VEH 081 on 25 August 2025 (page 2 of evidence 3). The filled-out sections indicate that with the support of the grant, the Port Regional Council would install bicycle racks in nine different Local Councils within the Valletta Region. In compliance with Section A.5 of VEH 081 (page 2 of evidence 3), the proposed locations for the bicycle rack installations were provided in the form of site plans and photographs annexed to the application (evidence 4 through evidence 12).

TM approved the Port Regional Council’s application on 17 December 2025 by sending it 17 letters of approval (evidence 14). These letters confirmed a one-time grant payment of EUR 528.78 per bicycle rack installed, which consequently indicates that a total of 17 bicycle racks were installed. The locations of the installed bicycle racks are listed in the approval letters and are situated within the following nine Local Councils:

- Birgu Local Council,
- Bormla Local Council,
- Fgura Local Council,
- Isla Local Council,
- Kalkara Local Council,
- Paola Local Council,
- Tarxien Local Council,
- Valletta Local Council, and
- Zabbar Local Council.

Port Regional Council then completed and submitted to TM, Sections B.1 to B.2 as Stage 2 of same VEH 081 form on 27 January 2026, declaring that the bicycle racks "... as installed, are now available for public use free of charge ..." (page 3 of evidence 3).

With regard to the second phase, the Ministry for Transport completed the installation of nine bicycle pumps alongside nine of the 17 installed bicycle racks. This means that, within each of the nine Local Councils listed above, at least one combined installation of a bicycle rack and a bicycle pump was carried out. The report, compiled and signed by a certified architect on 28 January 2026, includes photographic evidence documenting both the bicycle racks and the bicycle pumps, included in repair stations, as installed (evidence 13).

A cross-check of the site plans and photographs of the proposed bicycle rack locations (evidence 4 through evidence 12), annexed by the Port Regional Council to its completed VEH 081 (evidence 3), against the above-mentioned report confirms that the bicycle pumps were installed at the same locations as the bicycle racks.

The correspondence between the photographs and the respective locations in the above-mentioned documents can be identified as follows:

- Photo of proposed installation of bicycle racks at location ref. PR016 - Triq il-Kardinal F. Sciberras in Birgu Local Council (page 4 of evidence 4) matches with the photo of the completed installation of bicycle racks and bicycle pumps on page 9 of evidence 13.
- Photo of proposed installation of bicycle racks at location ref. PR010 - Xatt ta' Bormla in Bormla Local Council (page 5 to 6 of evidence 5) matches with the photo of the completed installation of bicycle racks and bicycle pumps on page 6 of evidence 13.
- Photo of proposed installation of bicycle racks at location ref. PR007 - Triq Hompesh in Fgura Local Council (page 2 of evidence 6) matches with the photo of the completed installation of bicycle racks and bicycle pumps on page 4 of evidence 13.
- Photo of proposed installation of bicycle racks at location ref. PR013 - Xatt Juan B. Azzopardi in Isla Local Council (page 4 of evidence 7) matches with the photo of the completed installation of bicycle racks and bicycle pumps on page 7 of evidence 13.
- Photo of proposed installation of bicycle racks at location ref. PR014 - Triq ix-Xatt in Kalkara Local Council (pages 1 to 2 of evidence 8) matches with the photo of the completed installation of bicycle racks and bicycle pumps on page 8 of evidence 13.
- Photo of proposed installation of bicycle racks at location ref. PR004 – Green Coridor in Paola Local Council (pages 4 to 5 of evidence 9) matches with the photo of the completed installation of bicycle racks and bicycle pumps on page 3 of evidence 13.
- Photo of proposed installation of bicycle racks at location ref. PR002 – Gnien Ovindoli in Tarxien Local Council (pages 4 to 5 of evidence 10) matches with the photo of the completed installation of bicycle racks and bicycle pumps on page 2 of evidence 13.
- As explained by the Maltese authorities in the Summary document (page 3 of evidence 1), the proposed installation for location reference PR017 – Triq il-Mediterran in the Valletta Local Council (page 3 of evidence 11) was relocated to Triq San Bastjan, which is still within the Valletta Local Council. This new location is confirmed by the photograph of the completed installation on page 10 of evidence 13.
- Photo of proposed installation of bicycle racks at location ref. PR008 – Misrah il-Madonna Medjatrici in Zabbar Local Council (pages 1 to 2 of evidence 12) matches with the photo of the completed installation of bicycle racks and bicycle pumps on page 5 of evidence 13.

Furthermore, the above confirms that bicycle racks and bicycle pumps, were installed in nine of the Local Councils covered by the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan for the Valletta Region (hereinafter referred to as "SUMP for the Valletta Region"). The SUMP for the Valletta Region includes 27 Local Councils, listed on page 5 of evidence 15. The Local Councils of Birgu, Bormla, Fgura, Isla, Kalkara, Paola,

Tarxien, Valletta, and Zabbar, where the bicycle racks and pumps were installed, are included in this list.

The Commission services conducted an on-the-spot check on 26 February 2026 to verify the installation of bicycle racks and bicycle pumps, as shown in evidence 13. This check was completed successfully, confirming that bicycle racks and bicycle pumps were installed at the locations indicated in evidence 13, within nine Local Councils covered by the SUMP for the Valletta Region.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Target: 2.17 Number of grants awarded for electric vehicles under the scheme for the private sector

Related Measure: C2.I2 Enhancing the uptake of electric vehicles in the private sector

Quantitative Indicator: Number

Baseline: 1000

Target: 5600

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this investment is a shift towards electric mobility and reduce emissions emanating from the road transport sector in Malta. This measure consists of a grant scheme for the purchase of new electric vehicles.

Target 2.17 concerns the award of a further 4,600 grants under the Electric Vehicle scheme, to reach a total of 5,600 grants awarded in the private sector.

Target 2.17 is the third milestone or target of the investment, and it follows the completion of milestone 2.15 related to the launch of the open call for applications for electric vehicles and bicycles in the private sector, and target 2.16 related to the intermediary target of the first 1000 grants awarded under the same scheme.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence.	Short description
1	Summary document	Summary document duly justifying how the milestone requirements (including all its constitutive elements) have been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Guide <i>“Purchase of New Electric Vehicles and Pedelecs – 2025”</i>	The guide, published on the website of Transport Malta, explains the application process and requirements under the scheme (https://www.transport.gov.mt/Land/Sustainable-Transport/Grant-Schemes-on-New-Electric-Vehicles-and-Pedelecs/2025-Scheme-for-New-Electric-Vehicles-and-Pedelecs-7136).

3	A list of 4,848 applications for which a grant has been awarded	A list of 4,848 applications for which a grant has been awarded by 31 December 2024. Each application is assigned a unique official reference number. The list also indicates the specific type and category of electric vehicles.
4	Grant award letters for 60 sampled units	In the context of the sampling exercise, Malta provided 60 copies of grant award letters, and other supporting evidence including completed application form VEH 057A under the Electric Vehicle Scheme, for 60 randomly selected applications out of a total of 4,848 applications.

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

This target measures the number of grants awarded under the Electric Vehicle Scheme in the private sector.

Furthermore, in line with the measure description, **this measure consists of a grant scheme for the purchase of new electric vehicles.**

The scheme (evidence 2, section “The Incentive Details”) is for vehicles registered and licensed in Malta by 31st December 2024. It is aimed at residents of Malta, and voluntary organisations and undertakings established in Malta. It supports the purchase of new electric passenger cars, goods carrying vehicles, minibuses, coaches, quadricycles, motorcycles, and pedelecs, with different levels of support available for each electric vehicle category.

According to the list of applications (evidence 3), by 31 December 2024, 4,848 grants were awarded for electric vehicles for the private sector under the Electric Vehicle Scheme. For each grant, the list of applications contains several fields, including the unique identifier (i.e. application number), type of applicant (i.e. person or undertaking), as well as the brand, model and category of the purchased electric vehicle (evidence 3).

As specified in the Guide “Purchase of New Electric Vehicles And Pedelecs”, (evidence 2, section “Applying for this Incentive”) in order to apply for the grant, the applicants first had to register the new electric vehicle with Transport Malta or, in the case of pedelecs not requiring registration, submit an invoice (evidence 2). This ensured that the electric vehicle was actually purchased.

Following the selection of a random sample of 60 units from the list of applications (evidence 3), Malta submitted copies of the grant award letters issued to the applicants, and other supporting evidence such as completed application form VEH 057A under the Electric Vehicle Scheme (evidence 4). The first check was that the vehicle purchased was electric (i.e., car, minibus/coach, quadricycle/motorcycle or pedelec) and this was based on the model applied for, and a check from public sources that has an electric only transmission. The second check was that the beneficiaries were individuals, voluntary organisation or undertakings (i.e. private sector), based on the names supplied in the application forms. The evidence provided for 60 sampled units confirmed that the requirement of the target has

been met, and that Malta awarded 4848 grants under the Eclectic Vehicle Scheme in the private sector, thus exceeding the goal of the target 2.17 by 248.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled.

Number and name of the Target: 2.19 Replacement of vehicles within the Government fleet by electric (zero emissions) vehicles.

Related Measure: C2.I3 Decarbonising the public service fleet

Quantitative Indicator: Number

Baseline: 0

Target: 250

Time: Q3 2025

1. Context:

The objective of this investment is to increase the uptake of electric vehicles in the public service.

Target 2.19 concerns the purchase of 250 electric (zero emissions) vehicles for use in the Government vehicle fleet and the scrappage of an equivalent number of vehicles.

Target 2.19 is the second and last target of the investment, and it follows the completion of milestone 2.18, related to the contracting of services for the supply of electric vehicles for the public service fleet.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	Summary document duly justifying how the target requirements (including all its constitutive elements) have been satisfactorily fulfilled
2	Provisional Acceptance Reports for the procured vehicles	Three reports dated 19 September 2024, 25 April 2025 and 18 April 2024. from a consulting engineer contracted by the Maltese Government, confirming the delivery of 210 procured electric vehicles in line with contractual obligations assessed in M 2.18 for Lots 1 and Lot 3 (tender number: CT 3015/2023) and 30 vehicles delivered in line with requirements for Lot 2 (tender number: CT3015/2023), and 10 procured electric vehicles in line with requirements for Lot 4 (tender number CT3049/2022)
3	Delivery notes linked to Lot 2 (tender number CT 3015/2023)	30 Delivery notes addressed to the vehicle supplier, signed to accept these vehicles.

4	Scrappage certificates	A document consolidating the scrappage certificates for all the government vehicles that have been replaced
5	Contract with engineering firm	Contract MT/104/22 signed between the Office of the Prime Minister (Kevin Mahoney), Ministry of Tourism (Anthony Gatt), and Charles Cuschieri (Camilleri & Cuschieri) on 24 October 2022. Confirms status of firm as a government appointed consultant
6	Annex A: CT3015/2023/1 for Lots 1 and 3 signed on 12 September 2023	Signed contracts for Lot 1 (Supply of 194 passenger vehicles) and Lot 3 (Supply of 16 commercial small vehicles)
7	Annex B: CT3015/2023/2 Lot 2 signed on 28 September 2023	Signed contract for Lot 2 (Supply of 30 passenger vehicles)
8	Annex C: CT3049/2022 Lot 4 signed on 12 September 2023	Signed contract for Lot 4 (Supply of 10 commercial large vehicles)

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

Replacement of 250 vehicles within the Government fleet by electric (zero emissions) vehicles.

Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the measure consists of the purchase of 250 electric vehicles for use in the Government vehicle fleet and the scrappage of an equivalent number of vehicles.**

The target is made up of two elements (i) the purchase of 250 electric vehicles (“EVs”) and (ii) the replacement/scrappage of 250 vehicles within the Government fleet.

Regarding the purchase of 250 EVs, proof of their delivery is provided through the Provisional Acceptance Reports submitted by consulting engineers Camilleri & Cuschieri (evidence 2). The status of Camilleri & Cuschieri as the consulting engineer appointed by the government for the purpose of approving the delivery of the 250 electric vehicles in question, is confirmed by the contract signed between the Government of Malta and Camilleri & Cuschieri Consulting Engineers (evidence 5) where on page 2 (“Assignment of Duties and Responsibilities”, no.2) it is noted that the contract is for the “provision of consultancy service on the procurement of Electric Vehicles...”. In addition, on the same page (“Effective Date and Duration”, no.4) among the services requested, Camilleri & Cuschieri Consulting Engineers would ensure the “validation of the supply of the EV’s up to implementation and handing over [...]”.

- For Lots 1 and 3, the Provisional Acceptance Report of 19 September 2024 indicates that EVs “have been delivered according to the contractual obligations” (evidence 2, page 1). Contracts

signed for the purchase of EVs under Lots 1 and 3 were for a total of 210 EVs (evidence 6, page 3).

- For Lot 2, the Provisional Acceptance Report of 25 April 2025 indicates that 30 EVs “have been checked and can be delivered” (evidence 2, page 2), in line with the relevant contract (evidence 7, page 3). As a further corroboration, for the delivery under this lot 30 unique vehicle delivery notes signed on behalf of the Government of Malta were also supplied (evidence 3).
- For Lot 4, the Provisional Acceptance Report of 18 April 2024 confirms the 10 electric vehicles “have been delivered” (evidence 2, page 3), in line with the relevant contract (evidence 8, page 3). This, therefore, covers a total of 250 EVs.

The status of these vehicles being electric and, therefore, zero emission is confirmed by the Provisional Acceptance Reports which indicate the purchase of the electric vehicles pursuant to the tender for the supply of electric vehicles CT3015/2023 (evidence 2). The Technical Specifications of the contracts signed pursuant to that tender require that the vehicles are electric (page 63 of evidence 6, page 61 of evidence 3, and page 65 of evidence 8).

Regarding the scrapping of 250 existing vehicles, evidence 4 is a document with a series of scrapping certificates combined. There are 253 individual scrapping certificates, stating the registration number of each scrapped vehicle.

The fact that the scrapped vehicles were within the government fleet is evidenced by the addressee of the scrapping certificate being in each case a government ministry, namely the Cleansing and Maintenance Division (a department of the Ministry for the Environment, Energy and Public Cleanliness) and the Ministry for Tourism.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 3.11 Acquisition or renewal of Microsoft 365 (or equivalent) licences

Related Measure: C3.I3 Further digitalisation and modernisation of the public administration

Qualitative Indicator: Licences acquired or renewed

Time: Q4 2025

1. Context:

The objective of the investment is for the public administration to provide better customer experience to citizens and business organisations, to increase the uptake of online services, to support the competitiveness of the Maltese economy, and to offer remote means of working for public officers.

The investment consists of supporting the use of e-government services, performing data capture of building units, introducing the National Single Window for customs, and the acquisition of hardware and software to offer remote work for public officers.

Milestone 3.11 consists of the acquisition or renewal of 3 500 Microsoft 365 (or equivalent) licences in 2021 and 3 500 Microsoft 365 (or equivalent) licences in 2022.

Milestone 3.11 is the first milestone of this investment and it follows target 3.10, related to the pay out of at least EUR 2 500 000 for contractual obligations relating to measures in relation to the modern digital workplace and solutions to improve the front-end customer experience. It will be followed by milestone 3.12 related to the acquisition of laptops and telephony licences and milestone 3.13 related to DESI indicators for digital public services for citizens and for businesses (also assessed under this payment request), as well as milestone 3.11a related to the acquisition or renewal of Microsoft 365 Copilot licences and milestone 3.13a related to the creation of the National Single Window for Customs and an Address-Based Geolocated Image Capture of Maltese Building Units (which will be assessed in the subsequent payment request).

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	A summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Microsoft Enterprise Contract, reference C024/21, dated 1 May 2021	The contract concluded by the Malta Information Technology Agency (MITA), used for the procurement of licences.
3	Invoice SIN 045645 for the procurement of 12,000	Invoice from the supplier, approved by MITA, for the procurement of 12,000 licences in 2021

	licences in 2021 (dated 1 May 2021)	
4	Invoice SIN100622 for the renewal of 3,500 licences in 2022 (dated 10 June 2022)	Invoice from the supplier, approved by MITA, for the renewal of 3,500 licences in 2022

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

Acquisition or renewal of 3 500 Microsoft 365 (or equivalent) licences in 2021 and 3 500 Microsoft 365 (or equivalent) licences in 2022.

For the acquisition of the Microsoft 365 licences, the Malta Information Technology Agency (MITA) made use of the procurement framework established under Contract C024/21 (evidence 2). Article 2.1 of Contract C024/21 provides that the agreement establishes a framework contract with the supplier who will act as a purchase channel for the acquisition of Microsoft licenses for a period of three years.

As demonstrated by the invoice in evidence 3, in 2021, MITA acquired 12,000 Microsoft 365 licences, thus exceeding the requirement of the milestone by 8,500 licences (evidence 3, pages 1 and 3, under line item AAD-33204).

Furthermore, as demonstrated by the invoice in evidence 4, in 2022, MITA renewed 3,500 Microsoft 365 licences (evidence 4, page 1, under line item AAD-33204).

Both invoices were issued by the supplier to MITA and bear an approval stamp of the Chief Financial Officer of MITA.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled.

Number and name of the Milestone: 3.12 Acquisition of laptops and telephony licences

Related Measure: C3.I3 Further digitalisation and modernisation of the public administration

Qualitative Indicator: Laptops and telephony licences acquired

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of the investment is for the public administration to provide better customer experience to citizens and business organisations, to increase the uptake of online services, to support the competitiveness of the Maltese economy, and to offer remote means of working for public officers. The investment consists of supporting the use of e-government services, performing data capture of building units, introducing the National Single Window for customs, and the acquisition of hardware and software to offer remote work for public officers.

Milestone 3.12 consists of the acquisition of 2 000 laptops and 2 000 telephony licences.

Milestone 3.12 is one of three milestones of this investment assessed under this payment request, together with milestone 3.11 related to the acquisition or renewal of 3 500 Microsoft 365 licences in 2021 and 2022 and milestone 3.13 related to DESI indicators for digital public services for citizens and businesses. It follows the completion of target 3.10, related to the pay out of at least EUR 2 500 000 for contractual obligations relating to measures in relation to the modern digital workplace and solutions to improve the front-end customer experience. It will be followed by milestone 3.11a related to the acquisition or renewal of Microsoft 365 Copilot licences and milestone 3.13a related to the creation of the National Single Window for Customs and an Address-Based Geolocated Image Capture of Maltese Building Units.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	A summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Contract C009/22 for the Provision of Energy Efficient High-End Laptops (16 August 2022)	Contract concluded by Malta Information Technology Agency (MITA) for the procurement of laptops
3	63 invoices regarding the purchase of 1,499 laptops issued by the supplier to MITA under contract C009/22	63 invoices regarding the purchase of 1,499 laptops under contract C009/22
4	Contract C005/23 for the Provision of Energy Efficient High-End Laptops (12 July 2023)	Contract concluded by MITA for the procurement of laptops

5	13 invoices regarding the purchase of 501 laptops issued by the supplier to MITA under contract C005/23	13 invoices regarding the purchase of 501 laptops under contract C005/23
6	Contract C024/21 for the Provision of Microsoft Licences (Perpetual and Subscription) and Related Services (1 May 2021)	Contract concluded by MITA, which includes the provision of Teams Phone Standard licences
7	Purchase Order POR055440 (22 May 2023)	Purchase Order POR055440 for purchasing of 2,000 Teams Phone Standard licenses
8	Invoice - SIN48402 (18 May 2023)	Invoice showing the purchase of 2,000 Teams Phone Standard licences through contract C024/21
9	PDF copy of webpage "What is Teams Phone" from https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftteams/what-is-phone-system-in-office-36	PDF copy of webpage "What is Teams Phone" from Microsoft's website
10	PDF copy of webpage "Teams Phone licensing" from https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftteams/teams-phone-licensing	PDF copy of webpage "Teams Phone licensing" from Microsoft's website

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

Acquisition of 2 000 laptops [...].

MITA acquired 2,000 laptops in two phases.

First, following the call for tenders, on 16 August 2022 MITA concluded Contract C009/22 for the Provision of Energy Efficient High-End Laptops (evidence 2). Pursuant to that contract, MITA acquired 1,499 laptops, as confirmed by 63 invoices, listed in the table below (evidence 3).

Table 1A: Procurement for 1,499 of the 2,000 laptops

No	Supplier / Contract	Invoice Number	Invoice Date	Quantity	Quantity Cumulative
1.	Eworld - C009/22	20010149	01-Feb-23	5	5
2.	Eworld - C009/22	20010163	06-Feb-23	20	25
3.	Eworld - C009/22	20010164	06-Feb-23	27	52

No	Supplier / Contract	Invoice Number	Invoice Date	Quantity	Quantity Cumulative
4.	Eworld - C009/22	20010165	06-Feb-23	20	72
5.	Eworld - C009/22	20010166	06-Feb-23	16	88
6.	Eworld - C009/22	20010167	06-Feb-23	10	98
7.	Eworld - C009/22	20010168	06-Feb-23	20	118
8.	Eworld - C009/22	20010212	16-Feb-23	20	138
9.	Eworld - C009/22	20010213	16-Feb-23	10	148
10.	Eworld - C009/22	20010219	16-Feb-23	20	168
11.	Eworld - C009/22	20010270	02-Mar-23	12	180
12.	Eworld - C009/22	20010271	02-Mar-23	18	198
13.	Eworld - C009/22	20010272	02-Mar-23	25	223
14.	Eworld - C009/22	20010273	02-Mar-23	25	248
15.	Eworld - C009/22	20010274	02-Mar-23	12	260
16.	Eworld - C009/22	20010275	02-Mar-23	17	277
17.	Eworld - C009/22	20010276	02-Mar-23	30	307
18.	Eworld - C009/22	20010300	09-Mar-23	38	345
19.	Eworld - C009/22	20010301	09-Mar-23	19	364
20.	Eworld - C009/22	20010303	09-Mar-23	21	385
21.	Eworld - C009/22	20010304	10-Mar-23	12	397
22.	Eworld - C009/22	20010306	10-Mar-23	20	417
23.	Eworld - C009/22	20010345	21-Mar-23	14	431
24.	Eworld - C009/22	20010346	21-Mar-23	8	439
25.	Eworld - C009/22	20010347	21-Mar-23	20	459
26.	Eworld - C009/22	20010349	21-Mar-23	4	463
27.	Eworld - C009/22	20010351	21-Mar-23	25	488
28.	Eworld - C009/22	20010352	21-Mar-23	42	530
29.	Eworld - C009/22	20010353	21-Mar-23	17	547
30.	Eworld - C009/22	20010374	27-Mar-23	40	587
31.	Eworld - C009/22	20010375	27-Mar-23	10	597
32.	Eworld - C009/22	20010431	14-Apr-23	25	622
33.	Eworld - C009/22	20010432	14-Apr-23	50	672
34.	Eworld - C009/22	20010433	14-Apr-23	50	722
35.	Eworld - C009/22	20010434	14-Apr-23	50	772
36.	Eworld - C009/22	20010435	14-Apr-23	50	822
37.	Eworld - C009/22	20010472	24-Apr-23	2	824
38.	Eworld - C009/22	20010477	24-Apr-23	53	877
39.	Eworld - C009/22	20010478	24-Apr-23	20	897
40.	Eworld - C009/22	20010537	08-May-23	5	902
41.	Eworld - C009/22	20010538	08-May-23	50	952
42.	Eworld - C009/22	20010539	08-May-23	5	957
43.	Eworld - C009/22	20010599	23-May-23	20	977
44.	Eworld - C009/22	20010600	23-May-23	45	1022
45.	Eworld - C009/22	20010620	29-May-23	18	1040
46.	Eworld - C009/22	20010712	22-Jun-23	9	1049
47.	Eworld - C009/22	20010713	22-Jun-23	32	1081
48.	Eworld - C009/22	20010714	22-Jun-23	6	1087

No	Supplier / Contract	Invoice Number	Invoice Date	Quantity	Quantity Cumulative
49.	Eworld - C009/22	20010715	22-Jun-23	10	1097
50.	Eworld - C009/22	20010716	22-Jun-23	13	1110
51.	Eworld - C009/22	20010728	26-Jun-23	30	1140
52.	Eworld - C009/22	20010741	30-Jun-23	34	1174
53.	Eworld - C009/22	20010816	20-Jul-23	12	1186
54.	Eworld - C009/22	20010817	20-Jul-23	40	1226
55.	Eworld - C009/22	20010830	26-Jul-23	5	1231
56.	Eworld - C009/22	20010831	20-Jul-23	62	1293
57.	Eworld - C009/22	20010832	26-Jul-23	27	1320
58.	Eworld - C009/22	20010880	08-Aug-23	23	1343
59.	Eworld - C009/22	20010917	23-Aug-23	48	1391
60.	Eworld - C009/22	20010918	23-Aug-23	26	1417
61.	Eworld - C009/22	20010919	23-Aug-23	26	1443
62.	Eworld - C009/22	20010993	06-Sep-23	6	1449
63.	Eworld - C009/22	20010994	06-Sep-23	50	1499
				1499	

Second, following another call for tenders, on 12 July 2023 MITA concluded Contract C005/23 for the Provision of Energy Efficient High-End Laptops (evidence 4). Pursuant to that contract, MITA acquired 501 laptops, as confirmed by 13 invoices, listed in the table below (evidence 5).

Table 1B. Procurement for 501 of the 2,000 Laptops

No	Supplier / Contract	Invoice Number	Invoice Date	Quantity	Quantity Cumulative
1.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00078676	31-Aug-23	50	50
2.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00078678	31-Aug-23	50	100
3.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079266	05-Oct-23	50	150
4.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079267	05-Oct-23	50	200
5.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079269	05-Oct-23	24	224
6.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079320	09-Oct-23	23	247
7.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079321	09-Oct-23	30	277
8.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079344	10-Oct-23	17	294
9.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079367	11-Oct-23	37	331
10.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079558	20-Oct-23	30	361
11.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079559	20-Oct-23	23	384
12.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079868	07-Nov-23	73	457
13.	SG Solutions - C005/23	IN00079869	07-Nov-23	44	501
				501	

Therefore, the total number of acquired laptops amounts to 2,000.

Acquisition of [...] 2 000 telephony licences.

On 25 May 2021, MITA concluded Contract C024/21 which includes the provision of Teams Phone Standard licences (evidence 6, page 17, 'Table 1.1 Lead Enrolment Committed', item: Phone Sys ShrdSvr ALN6 SubsvL MVL PerUsr with SKU code LK6-00004). "Phone Sys" is an abbreviation for Phone

System, Microsoft's cloud-based private branch exchange (PBX) solution that provides call control and calling capabilities within Microsoft Teams (evidence 9 and 10).

Under Contract C024/21, MITA acquired 2,000 Teams Phone Standard licences, as demonstrated by the purchase order from MITA (evidence 7) and the corresponding invoice from the supplier (evidence 8), which both refer to 2,000 units of "Phone Sys ShrdSvr ALN6 SubsVL MVL PerUsr".

Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the investment consists of [...] the acquisition of hardware and software to offer remote work for public officers.**

As explained above, MITA acquired both 2,000 laptops (i.e. hardware) and 2,000 Teams Phone Standard licences (i.e. software). Together, these assets contribute to an integrated digital work environment which offers public officers the possibility to perform their duties remotely.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled.

Number and name of the Milestone: 3.13 Digital public services for citizens and businesses

Related Measure: C3.I3 Further digitalisation and modernisation of the public administration

Qualitative Indicator: Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) indicator for digital public services

Time: Q4 2025

1. Context:

The objective of the investment is for the public administration to provide better customer experience to citizens and business organisations, to increase the uptake of online services, to support the competitiveness of the Maltese economy, and to offer remote means of working for public officers.

The investment consists of supporting the use of e-government services, performing data capture of building units, introducing the National Single Window for customs, and the acquisition of hardware and software to offer remote work for public officers.

Milestone 3.13 consists of DESI indicator for digital public services for citizens of at least 99.7 and DESI indicator for digital public services for businesses of at least 99.0.

Milestone 3.13 is one of three milestones of this investment assessed under this payment request, together with milestone 3.11 related to the acquisition or renewal of Microsoft 365 licences and milestone 3.12 related to the acquisition of laptops and telephony licences. It follows the completion of target 3.10 related to the pay out of at least EUR 2 500 000 for contractual obligations relating to measures in relation to the modern digital workplace and solutions to improve the front-end customer experience. It will be followed by milestone 3.11a related to the acquisition or renewal of Microsoft 365 Copilot licences and milestone 3.13a related to the creation of the National Single Window for Customs and an Address-Based Geolocated Image Capture of Maltese Building Units.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1.	Summary document	A summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2.	A copy of DESI 2025 indicator for digital public services for citizens, also available at: https://digital-decade-desi.digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/datasets/desi/charts/compare-countries-progress?period=desi_2025&indicator=desi_dps_cit&breakdown=total&unit=egov_score&country=MT	A pdf copy and a link to DESI 2025 indicator for digital public services for citizens

3.	A copy of DESI 2025 indicator for digital public services for businesses, also available at: https://digital-decade-desi.digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/datasets/desi/charts/compare-countries-progress?period=desi_2025&indicator=desi_dps_biz&breakdown=total&unit=egov_score&country=MT	A pdf copy and a link to DESI 2025 indicator for digital public services for businesses
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3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

DESI indicator for digital public services for citizens of at least 99.7.

The eGovernment Benchmark Reports available on the European Commission website state that Malta’s DESI 2025 indicator for digital public services for citizens is 99.7, based on the latest available data from 2024 (evidence 2). The Commission services accessed the link provided by the authorities on 26 January 2026 to verify Malta’s DESI 2025 indicator for digital public services for citizens. This check was completed successfully, confirming that the reported indicator is 99.7.

DESI indicator for digital public services for businesses of at least 99.0.

The eGovernment Benchmark Reports available on the European Commission website state that Malta’s DESI 2025 indicator for digital public services for businesses is 100, based on the latest available data from 2024 (evidence 3). The Commission services accessed the link provided by the authorities on 26 January 2026 to verify Malta’s DESI 2025 indicator for digital public services for businesses. This check was completed successfully, confirming that the reported indicator is 100. According to the evidence provided, Malta achieved the indicator of 100, thus exceeding the goal of Milestone 3.13 by one point.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled.

Number and name of the Milestone: 4.3 Reports on addressing policy recommendations on wellbeing and integration of foreign workforce within the Ministry for Health.

Related Measure: C4.R1 Develop and implement a health policy framework aimed at making the health system more sustainable and resilient, with a particular focus on health prevention and a strong workforce

Qualitative Indicator: (i) Publication of a report on the Positive Integration, Assimilation and Retention of Foreign Workers within the Ministry for Health in Malta. (ii) Publication of a report on addressing policy recommendations on the wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers

Time: Q4 2025

1. Context:

The objective of this reform is to build resilience in the health sector’s workforce and to prevent diseases in children. The reform consists of (i) a bespoke tool for workforce planning, (ii) measures to facilitate the integration and wellbeing of foreign health workers, (iii) assessment of obesity prevalence among 4- 5 year-old children and (iv) the roll out of a neonatal hearing screening programme.

Milestone 4.3 concerns the publication of a report by the external expert to the Ministry for Health on the Positive Integration, Assimilation and Retention of Foreign Workers within the Ministry for Health in Malta and publication of a report by authorities responsible for health on addressing policy recommendations on the wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers.

Milestone 4.3 is the fifth and final milestone of the reform, and it follows the completion of milestone 4.1 related to a study on barriers and facilitators for better integration and wellbeing of the foreign workforce, milestone 4.5 related to measuring obesity prevalence in children, milestone 4.2 related to the development of a bespoke tool for health workforce planning and target 4.6 related to the implementation of a neonatal hearing screening programme.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence.	Short description
1	Summary Document	Summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all its constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Report by the external expert to the Ministry for Health on the Positive Integration, Assimilation and Retention of Foreign Workers within the Ministry for Health in Malta	Study sought to determine what helps or hinders the attraction, onboarding, and long-term retention of international healthcare professionals employed in the Ministry for Health.

		<p>The study is available online on https://peoplemanagement-health.gov.mt/en/the-department/research/</p> <p>under https://peoplemanagement-health.gov.mt/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Comprehensive-Study-on-the-Positive-Integration-Assimilation-and-Retention-of-Foreign-Workers-within-the-Ministry-for-Health-in-Malta-Report-2024.pdf</p>
3	Report by authorities responsible for health on addressing policy recommendations on the wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers	<p>This report outlines the effective implementation by the Ministry for Health of the policy recommendations arising from the independent 2022 and 2024 studies on the wellbeing and integration of its foreign healthcare workforce.</p> <p>The study is available online on https://peoplemanagement-health.gov.mt/en/the-department/research/</p> <p>under https://peoplemanagement-health.gov.mt/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Report.pdf</p>

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

Reports on addressing policy recommendations on wellbeing and integration of foreign workforce within the Ministry for Health

The Council Implementing Decision states in the title of the milestone “Reports on addressing policy recommendations on wellbeing and integration of foreign workforce within the Ministry for Health”. The Council Implementing Decision also states “Publication of report by the external expert to the Ministry for Health on the Positive Integration, Assimilation and Retention of Foreign Workers within the Ministry for Health in Malta. Publication of a report by authorities responsible for health on addressing policy recommendations on the wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers.”

In light of the contextual interpretation of this requirement from the Council Implementing Decision, it is interpreted that this requirement calls for two different reports to be published: the publication of one report by the external expert to the Ministry for Health, which concerns the positive integration,

assimilation and retention of foreign workers in the ministry of Health in Malta, and the publication of a second report by authorities responsible for health on addressing the policy recommendations on wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers. The first published report by the external expert to the Ministry of Health assessed the integration, assimilation and retention of foreign workers within the Ministry for Health in 2024 after the actions were undertaken by the authorities to address the policy recommendations issued by the first evaluation (assessed in Milestone 4.1, also see evidence 2, page 6). The second report published by the authorities responsible for health addresses the actions taken by the authorities in connection with the policy recommendations which they addressed on the wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers. On this basis, it is considered that this constitutive element of the milestone is satisfactorily fulfilled.

Publication of report by the external expert to the Ministry for Health on the Positive Integration, Assimilation and Retention of Foreign Workers within the Ministry for Health in Malta.

In 2022, a Comprehensive Study on the Positive Integration, Assimilation, and Retention of Foreign Workers within the Ministry for Health was commissioned by the People Management Division within the Ministry responsible for Health to Marketing Advisory Services Ltd (via Tender CFT017-0162/22, issued on 8 February 2022 and closed on 1 March 2022, as evidenced in the assessment of Milestone 4.1). As a follow-up to this analysis, the Ministry engaged Marketing Advisory Services Ltd to carry out an updated review in 2024 (evidence 2, page 4), which assessed the wellbeing and integration of foreign workers within the Ministry for Health in 2024 after the actions were undertaken by the authorities to address the policy recommendations issued by the first evaluation (assessed in Milestone 4.1, also see evidence 2, page 6). The overview of undertaken actions and the recommendations which they addressed, was provided in the second report of the milestone (see analysis below and evidence 3). The comprehensive study report, entitled Positive Integration, Assimilation and Retention of Foreign Workers within the Ministry for Health in Malta, was concluded in November 2024 and published on the website of the People Management Division of the Ministry for Health. The Commission services accessed the link provided by the authorities on 14 January 2026 to verify that the report submitted as evidence 2 is published and accessible. This check was completed successfully, confirming that the requirement for publication of the report is satisfactorily fulfilled.

The conclusion of this report (evidence 2, pages 4-6 and pages 125-128) have highlighted significant progress in the integration and wellbeing of foreign workers in Malta, particularly within the Ministry responsible for Health. Improvements have been noted in language accessibility (page 4 and Section 3.3.1), psychological wellbeing (page 5 and Section 3.3.3), workplace satisfaction (page 5 and Section 3.3.5), better adaptation to Maltese systems and lifestyle (page 5 and Section 3.3.6), training and induction processes (page 4 and Section 3.3.5), a higher level of tolerance (page 5 and Section 3.3.6) and inclusion as well as stronger friendships with locals (page 5 and Section 3.3.7). Nevertheless, challenges have remained in terms of the administrative processes and social integration (page 4 and Section 3.3.2). In addressing such challenges, the report has outlined a need for targeted programmes in Maltese language skills (pages 5, 126), whilst reducing administrative barriers for non-European nationals (pages 6, 127), addressing psychological wellbeing (pages 6, 127) and supporting work-life balance (page 6, 127).

Publication of a report by authorities responsible for health on addressing policy recommendations on the wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers.

The authorities responsible for health, namely the Ministry for Health and Active Ageing, published a report on actions addressing policy recommendations on the wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers. The respective report (evidence 3), which was published in December 2025 on the website of the People Management Division (PMD) of Ministry for Health. The Commission services accessed the link provided by the authorities on 14 January 2026 to verify that the report submitted as evidence 3 is published and accessible. This check was completed successfully, confirming that the requirement for publication of the report is satisfactorily fulfilled. The report explains how the policy recommendations on the wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers identified in the previous reports have been addressed.

The actions which have been undertaken by the Ministry are described in the report in the context of addressing policy recommendations on the wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers (evidence 3, pages 7-16):

- Actions on streamlining of bureaucracy and reduction of administrative processes through the establishment of a One-Stop-Shop addressed the recommendation to *“Establish a consistent, stable, and rapid process of engagement for foreign workers within the MFH following their selection and recruitment”* (evidence 3, page 7).
- Actions on a dedicated TCN Permit Manager (evidence 3, page 7) and an International Applicants Guidebook (evidence 3, page 8) addressed the recommendation *“Increase human and other resources where necessary to make the process of registration of TCN nurses and other workers more rapid and efficient”*.
- A manager has been recruited by the PMD to specifically follow up on processes related to work permits for TCN’s, serving as a communication bridge between PMD and Identità Malta (evidence 3, page 8) and addressing the recommendation *“Establish a specific ‘fast track’ process through which the necessary residence and related permits for TCN healthcare workers, and their family members, are processed by ID Malta”*.
- A course aimed at Embracing Diversity and to strengthen belonging (evidence 3, page 9) to address the recommendation *“Establish a more consistent process through which foreign workers train and familiarise themselves with both professional and sociocultural dimensions of life in Malta.”*
- Formalised peer-support networks via the Ambassador System (evidence 3, page 9), promoting cultural adaptation to address the recommendation *“Set up a system or scheme centred around “ambassadors” who may act as facilitators for the training and orientation programmes.”*
- The Ministry and the representing Unions operating within a structured framework of collective bargaining, mandating a comprehensive re-negotiation of the Sectoral Agreements every five years (evidence 3, page 10), which ensures the continuous improvement and modernization of working conditions, benefits, and professional terms. This action addresses the recommendation *“Improving the overall working conditions, benefits, and reputation of healthcare workers, particularly nurses”*.

Other key actions of cross-cutting (cross-recommendation) nature which are included in the review refer to availability of Maltese language courses (evidence 3, page 10) and strengthening English proficiency (page 11) to ensure patient safety and cultural competency. Psychological support (page 12), cultural competence training for managers (page 14) and a confidential discrimination reporting tool (page 12) were also introduced as part of the efforts undertaken by the Ministry responsible for Health to address any shortcomings impinging upon the wellbeing and integration of its foreign health workforce.

Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the reform consists of [...] (ii) measures to facilitate the integration and wellbeing of foreign health workers, [...].**

Collectively, the analysis which was been described above (evidence 2), together with the implemented measures and actions undertaken by the Ministry for Health and Active Ageing in Malta (as described in evidence 3), evidence that measures have been taken to facilitate the wellbeing and integration of foreign health workers in Malta.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 4.8 Entry into force of legal act(s) on the Blood Bank, Tissue and Cell Centre

Related Measure: C4.R2 Review the national legislative framework related to the Establishment of a Blood, Tissue and Cell Centre for Malta.

Qualitative Indicator: Provisions in the legal Act(s) indicating the entry into force

Time: Q2 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this reform is to review the national legislative framework related to the Blood, Tissue and Cell Centre for Malta. The reform consists of a review followed by the entry into force of legal act(s) on the Blood, Tissue and Cell Centre.

Milestone 4.8 concerns the entry into force of legal act(s) (a) to establish a Government Department operating the Blood Bank, Tissue and Cell Centre, and (b) to assign functions and responsibilities to the Government Department.

Milestone 4.8 is the second and last milestone of the reform, and it follows the completion of milestone 4.7, related to the online publication of review of the regulatory framework related to the Blood Bank, Tissue and Cell Centre.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence.	Short description
1	Summary Note	Summary note duly justifying how the milestone (including the relevant elements of the milestone) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Copy of ACT No. XXXIX of 2024 “AN ACT to amend the Health Act, Cap. 528” entered into force on 17.12.2024 as evidenced by publication in Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,362.	Amendment to the Health Act (Chapter 528 of the Laws of Malta) formally establishing the EBTC Operator as a Government department and hyperlink to where the Act can be found: https://legislation.mt/eli/act/2024/39/eng This is published in Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,362 (see evidence 3).
3	Copy of the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,362 of 17 December 2024	Where it is notified that the following Act is published in the Supplement to this Government Gazette: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Act No. XXXIX of 2024 entitled the Health (Amendment)Act, 2024.

		<p>and a hyperlink to where the Government Gazette can be accessed:</p> <p>https://www.gov.mt/en/Government/DOI/Government%20Gazette/Documents/2024/12/Government%20Gazette%20-%2017th%20December.pdf</p>
4	<p>Copy of Legal Notice 301 of 2024</p> <p>“Public Administration Act (Cap. 595); Public Administration Act (Amendment of Second Schedule) Order, 2024” entered into force on 15.11.2024, as evidenced by the publication in the Supplement to the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,346</p>	<p>Amendment to the Public Administration Act (Chapter 595 of the Laws of Malta) through amending the Second Schedule listing the Government Departments and hyperlink to where the LN can be found:</p> <p>https://legislation.mt/eli/ln/2024/301/eng</p> <p>This is published in the Supplement to the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,346 and notified as published in Government Gazette No. 21,347 (see evidence 6)</p>
5	<p>Copy of Legal Notice 300 of 2024</p> <p>“Health Act (Cap. 528); Functions and Responsibilities of the Department operating the Blood, Tissue and Cells Centre Regulations, 2024” entered into force on 15.11.2024, as evidenced by publication in the Supplement to the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,346</p>	<p>Legal Notice under the Health Act, entrusting specific functions and responsibilities to the new department and hyperlink to where the Act can be found:</p> <p>https://legislation.mt/eli/ln/2024/300/eng</p> <p>This is published in the Supplement to the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,346 and notified as published in Government Gazette No. 21,347 (see evidence 6)</p>
6	<p>Copy of Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,347 of 19th November 2024</p>	<p>Where it is notified that the following Legal Notices were published in the Supplement to the Government Gazette No. 21,346 of 15th November, 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L.N. 300 of 2024: Health Act (Cap. 528); Functions and Responsibilities of the Department operating the Blood, Tissue and Cells Centre Regulations, 2024. • L.N. 301 of 2024: Public Administration Act (Cap.595); Public Administration Act (Amendment of Second Schedule) Order, 2024.

		<p>and a hyperlink to where the Government Gazette can be accessed:</p> <p>https://www.gov.mt/en/Government/DOI/Government%20Gazette/Documents/2024/11/Government%20Gazette%20-%2019th%20November.pdf</p>
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3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

Entry into force of legal act(s) on the Blood Bank, Tissue and Cell Centre. Furthermore, in line with the measure description **the reform consists of [...] the entry into force of legal act(s) on the Blood, Tissue and Cell Centre.**

Entry into force of legal act(s) (a) to establish a Government Department operating the Blood Bank, Tissue and Cell Centre, [...]

The ACT No. XXXIX of 2024 “AN ACT to amend the Health Act Cap. 528” was published in the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,362 on 17 December 2024 (evidence 3, page 3) and entered into force on the date of its publication in accordance with the provisions of Article 72 of the Constitution of Malta (Chapter 0 of the Laws of Malta) and Articles 5 and 16 of the Interpretation Act (Chapter 249 of the Laws of Malta), which provide that the entry into force of a legal act takes place at the moment of the publication in the Government Gazette if not stipulated otherwise. Article 15A(1) of the ACT No. XXXIX of 2024 establishes a Government department operating the Blood Bank, Tissue and Cells Centre as of 17 December 2024.

This change also required an amendment to the Public Administration Act (Chapter 595 of the Laws of Malta) through a Legal Notice to amend the Second Schedule listing the Government Departments as reflected in **Legal Notice 301 of 2024 “Public Administration Act (Cap. 595); Public Administration Act (Amendment of Second Schedule) Order, 2024”** (evidence 4, page 1, article 2). The Legal Notice 301 of 2024 was published in the Supplement to the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,346 of 15 November 2024 and entered into force on the date of its publication in accordance with the provisions of Article 72 of the Constitution of Malta (Chapter 0 of the Laws of Malta) and Articles 5 and 16 of the Interpretation Act (Chapter 249 of the Laws of Malta), which provide that the entry into force of a legal act takes place at the moment of the publication in the Government Gazette if not stipulated otherwise. It was notified as published in a subsequent Government Gazette of Malta edition, notably No. 21,347 on 19 November 2024 (evidence 6, page 4).

[...] (b) to assign functions and responsibilities to the Government Department.

The **Legal Notice 300 of 2024 “Health Act (Cap. 528); Functions and Responsibilities of the Department operating the Blood, Tissue and Cells Centre Regulations, 2024”** was published in the Supplement to the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,346 on 15 November 2024 and entered into force on the date of its publication in accordance with the provisions of Article 72 of the Constitution of Malta (Chapter 0 of the Laws of Malta) and Articles 5 and 16 of the Interpretation Act (Chapter 249 of the Laws of Malta), which provide that the entry into force of a legal act takes place at the moment of the

publication in the Government Gazette if not stipulated otherwise. It was notified as published in a subsequent Government Gazette of Malta edition, notably No. 21,347 on 19 November 2024 (evidence 6, page 4).

The Article 3 of the Legal Notice 300 of 2024, assigns functions and responsibilities to the new Government department operating the Blood, Tissue and Cells Centre. The main function is to develop and to operate a facility for the reception, collection, processing, storage, distribution and issuing of blood, tissues and cells (evidence 5, pages 2-3).

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 4.14 Delivery of equipment for digital pathology services at the histopathology department at Mater Dei Hospital

Related Measure: C4.I2 Enhancing the resilience of the health system through digitalisation and new technologies

Qualitative Indicator: Delivery of equipment for digital pathology services

Time: Q2 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this investment is to support the digital transition of Malta’s health care system. The investment consists of equipment for digital pathology services and a Magnetic Resonance Linear Accelerator machine at the oncology centre reducing treatment volumes, times and side effects for patients.

Milestone 4.14 consists of the delivery of equipment for digital pathology services at the histopathology department at Mater Dei Hospital.

Milestone 4.14 is the fourth and last milestone of the investment. It follows the completion of milestone 4.11 related to contracts signed for the procurement of Magnetic Resonance Linear Accelerator, milestone 4.13 related to contracts signed for the digital pathology services at the histopathology department at Mater Dei hospital, and milestone 4.12 related to the operationalisation and use of Magnetic Resonance Linear Accelerator.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence.	Short description
1	Summary Document	Summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all its constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Copies of reports package CT3003_22_SGSolutions	Completion / installation reports for the equipment procured for the digital pathology services at the histopathology department at Mater Dei as specified in CT3003/22: Supplies Tender for the Supply of Energy Efficient Digital Pathology Workstations and Conference room Equipment.
3	Copies of reports package CT3018_Lot1_Evolve	Completion / installation reports for the equipment procured for the digital pathology services at the histopathology department at Mater Dei as specified in CT3018/22: Supplies Tender for the Infrastructure for a Digital Pathology Platform. Lot 1: Core components in the Digital Pathology Workflow.

4	Copies of reports package CT3018_Lot3_Technoline	Completion / installation reports for the equipment procured for the digital pathology services at the histopathology department at Mater Dei as specified in CT3018/22: Supplies Tender for the Infrastructure for a Digital Pathology Platform. Lot 3: Direct slide and cassette printers.
5	Copies of reports package CT3018_Lots 2_4_EJBusutil	Completion / installation reports for the equipment procured for the digital pathology services at the histopathology department at Mater Dei as specified in CT3018/22: Supplies Tender for the Infrastructure for a Digital Pathology Platform. Lot 2: Fluorescent in situ hybridization, and Lot 4: Autostainer and integrated coverslipper.

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

Delivery of equipment for digital pathology services at the histopathology department at Mater Dei Hospital. Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the investment consists of equipment for digital pathology services [...].**

This milestone assesses the delivery of equipment and software procured via the two contracts outlined below, and assessed in the previous milestone 4.13.

First, under contract no. CT3003/22: *Supplies Tender for the Supply of Energy Efficient Digital Pathology Workstations and Conference room Equipment*, the equipment for digital pathology services to be delivered at the histopathology department at Mater Dei hospital was listed under Section 3. Malta provided the e final report issued by contractor SG Solutions Ltd on 8th of April 2024, and counter-signed by the contracting authority Mater Dei Hospital, stating that “*all Works as identified in Contract number CT3003/22 have been completed*” (page 1 in evidence 2). Accompanying delivery notes (evidence 2, pages 2-9) detail the delivery of items in fulfilment of the contract terms.

Second, under contract no. Contract CT3018/22: *Supplies Tender for the Infrastructure for a Digital Pathology Platform*.

- *Lot 1: Core components in the Digital Pathology Workflow* of contract CT3018/22.
The equipment for digital pathology services to be delivered at the histopathology department at Mater Dei hospital was listed under Section 3. According to the final report of the contractor Evolve Ltd. on 21st of July 2025, counter-signed by the contracting authority Mater Dei Hospital, “*all equipment specified in tender document CT3018/22 has been successfully installed, and all related works have been completed in full compliance with tender requirements*” (page 1 in evidence 3). Accompanying report (evidence 3, pages 2-6) details the items delivered in fulfilment of the contract terms.
- *Lot 2: Fluorescent in situ hybridization* of contract CT3018/22.

The equipment for digital pathology services to be delivered at the histopathology department at Mater Dei hospital was listed under Section 3. According to the final report of the contractor E.J. Busuttil Ltd on 17th of July, 2025, counter-signed by the contracting authority Mater Dei Hospital, the contractor *“has completed supply, delivery, installation and commissioning of ... Lot 2”* of Contract CT3018/22 (page 1 in evidence 5). Accompanying reports (evidence 5, pages 2-5) detail the items delivered in fulfilment of the contract terms.

- *Lot 3: Direct slide and cassette printers* of contract CT3018/22.

The equipment for digital pathology services to be delivered at the histopathology department at Mater Dei hospital was listed under Section 3. According to the final report of the contractor Technoline Limited, counter-signed by the contracting authority Mater Dei Hospital, *“the equipment referenced in CT3018/22 -Lot 3 (digital Pathology Project) was successfully installed”* (page 1 in evidence 4). Accompanying reports (evidence 4, pages 3-64) detail the items delivered in fulfilment of the contract terms.

- *Lot 4: Autostainer and integrated coverslipper* of contract CT3018/22.

The equipment for digital pathology services to be delivered at the histopathology department at Mater Dei hospital was listed under Section 3. According to the final report of the contractor E.J. Busuttil Ltd on 17th of July, 2025, counter-signed by the contracting authority Mater Dei Hospital, the contractor *“has completed supply, delivery, installation and commissioning of ... Lot 4”* of Contract CT3018/22 (page 1 in evidence 5). Accompanying reports (evidence 5, pages 6-7) detail the items delivered in fulfilment of the contract terms.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Target: 5.1 Number of students trained in the Reading Recovery (RR) Programme

Related Measure: C5.R1 Strengthen early school leaving prevention measures, with a focus on skills acquisition

Quantitative Indicator: Number

Baseline: 0

Target: 1 000

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this measure is to prevent early school leaving and to contribute towards decreasing the early school leaving rate. The measure consists of the provision of a literacy support programme (Reading recovery (RR) programme) for students, including respective teacher trainings, and the go-live of the Data Warehouse Solution.

The target consists of the training of at least 1 000 students in the Reading Recovery (RR) Programme.

Target 5.1 is the third and last milestone or target of the reform. It follows the completion of milestone 5.4 related to the Go-Live of the Data Warehouse Solution, and the completion of target 5.2 related to the training of teachers in the Reading Recovery (RR) Programme.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary Document	Summary document duly justifying how the requirements of the target (including all its constitutive elements, as set out in the description of the target and of the corresponding measure in the CID annex) have been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	List of students who received a signed Reading Recovery Programme certificate	A list of the 1 061 individual students who received a signed individual Reading Recovery Programme certificate. Each individual student is assigned a unique official reference number.

3	Commission services sample request	In the context of the sampling exercise, Commission services randomly selected 60 unique official reference numbers.
4	Signed Reading Recovery Programme certificates for 60 sampled units	In the context of the sampling exercise, Malta provided 60 copies of signed individual Reading Recovery Programme certificates for 60 randomly selected individual students out of a total of 1 061 individual students.
5	Standards & Guidelines	Standards and guidelines for the implementation of the Reading Recovery (RR) programme in Europe.

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

Number of students trained in the Reading Recovery (RR) Programme. 1 000 students have received a Reading Recovery Programme certificate.

Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, the measure consists of the **provision of a literacy support programme (Reading recovery (RR) programme) for students.**

The Council Implementing Decision states that 1 000 students should have received a Reading Recovery Programme certificate. The Council Implementing Decision also states that the measure consists of the provision of a literacy support programme (Reading recovery (RR) programme) for students. The Recovery and Resilience Plan provides that 1 000 students will benefit from the programme. In light of the contextual interpretation of this requirement from the Council Implementing Decision, it is interpreted that a signed individual Reading Recovery Programme certificate shall have been issued to 1 000 students. According to the list of students who received a signed Reading Recovery Programme certificate (see Evidence No. 2), signed individual certificates were issued to 1 061 individual students therefore showing that the literacy support programme has been provided to students. Each individual student is assigned a unique official reference number. On this basis, it is considered that this constitutive element of the target is satisfactorily fulfilled.

Following the selection of a random sample of 60 units (see Evidence No. 3), Malta submitted for each of the 60 unique official reference numbers randomly selected by the Commission services from the list of signed Reading Recovery Programme certificates (see Evidence No. 2) copies of the individual Reading Recovery Programme certificates issued to the students and signed by the National Lead, Reading Recovery Europe, and the CEO of the National Literacy Agency within the Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation (see Evidence No. 4). The evidence provided for a sample of 60 units confirmed that 1 061 signed individual Reading Recovery Programme certificates have been issued to students, thus exceeding the goal of Target 5.1 by 61.

The Standards and guidelines for the implementation of the Reading Recovery (RR) programme in Europe issued by the European Centre for Reading Recovery at the Institute of Education of the University of London (see Evidence No. 5) outline the minimum requirements for an effective implementation of the literacy support programme, including for the respective student trainings.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactory fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 5.4 Data Warehouse Solution

Related Measure: C5.R1 Strengthen early school leaving prevention measures, with a focus on skills acquisition

Qualitative Indicator: Go-Live of the Data Warehouse Solution

Time: Q3 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this measure is to prevent early school leaving and to contribute towards decreasing the early school leaving rate.

The milestone consists of the signature of the acceptance report for the go-live of the Data Warehouse Solution by the contracting authority and the contractor.

Milestone 5.4 is the second milestone or target of the reform, and it follows the completion of target 5.2 related to the training of teachers in the Reading Recovery (RR) Programme. It will be followed by target 5.1 related to the training of at least 1 000 students in the Reading Recovery (RR) Programme.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary Document	Summary document duly justifying how the requirements of the milestone (including all its constitutive elements, as set out in the description of the milestone and of the corresponding measure in the CID annex) have been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Contract document	Contract CT 2233/2023 of 27 September 2024 signed by the Department of Contracts on behalf of the Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation (MEYR), and the contractor, Logikview Analytics Private Limited, on the provision of a Data Warehouse Solution and ongoing related services.
3	Acceptance report	Acceptance report of 25 September 2025 signed by the contracting authority, the Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation (MEYR), and the contractor, Logikview Analytics Private Limited, confirming

		the official Go-Live of the Data Warehouse Solution on 6 August 2025.
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3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

The acceptance report for the go-live of the Data Warehouse Solution has been signed by the contracting authority and the contractor. Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the reform consists of [...] the go-live of the Data Warehouse Solution.**

The acceptance report of 25 September 2025 (see Evidence No. 3) signed by the contracting authority, the Director of the Research and School Internal Review Directorate (RSIRD) within the Ministry for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation (MEYR), and the contractor, the Director of Logikview Analytics Private Limited, confirms the Go-Live of the Data Warehouse Solution with reference to the underlying contract CT2233/2023 (see Evidence No. 2). The acceptance report specifies that the Data Warehouse Solution officially went live on 6 August 2025 (see Evidence No. 3).

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactory fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 5.13 Monitoring report on unemployment benefits in Malta

Related Measure: C5.R.5 Reinforcing the resilience of the labour market

Qualitative Indicator: Publication of monitoring report

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of the reform is to assess and periodically monitor unemployment benefits in Malta. This reform consists of a study on unemployment benefits in Malta including the recommendation of policy options, the publication of an external monitoring report of unemployment benefits in Malta, employment-related actions, the publication of the National Employment Policy 2021-2030, gender-related actions, and the publication of the Gender Equality and Mainstreaming Strategy Action Plan 2022-2027.

Milestone 5.13 concerns the publication of an external monitoring report on unemployment benefits in Malta.

Milestone 5.13 is the second milestone of the reform, and it follows the completion of the milestone 5.12 related to the publication of a study on the assessment of unemployment benefits in Malta. It will be followed by milestone 5.14 related to the implementation of employment-related actions and the publication of the National Employment Policy 2021-2030, and milestone 5.15 related to the implementation of gender-related actions and the publication of the Gender Equality and Mainstreaming Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2027.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	A summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Adequacy Assessment of Contributory and Non-Contributory Unemployment Benefits as of 2024	Copy of the external monitoring report on the unemployment benefits and hyperlink to where it is published on the website of the Department for Social Security in Malta: https://socialsecurity.gov.mt/en/latest-news-featured-publications/ Direct link to access the online publication: Unemployment-Benefits-Monitoring-Report-Final-Revised-Version-27102025.pdf
3	Contract for service signed on 21 February 2024	Contract for service for the provision of consultancy and management services to be

	between the Ministry for Social Policy and Children’s Rights and Mr David Spiteri Gingell	rendered by Mr David Spiteri Gingell to the Ministry for Social Policy and Children’s Rights between 1 June 2024 and 31 May 2025.
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3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

An external monitoring report on unemployment benefits in Malta has been published. Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **this reform consists of [...] the publication of an external monitoring report of unemployment benefits in Malta, [...].**

A monitoring report assessing unemployment benefits provided under the social security contributory and non-contributory schemes for 2024 in Malta is published on the website of the Department for Social Security in Malta (evidence 2). The Commission services accessed the link provided by the authorities on 13 February 2026 to verify that the monitoring report assessing unemployment benefits provided under the social security contributory and non-contributory schemes for 2024 in Malta is published on the website of the Department for Social Security in Malta. This check was completed successfully, confirming that an external monitoring report on unemployment benefits in Malta has been published. The report was prepared by an external expert as evidenced by the contract for service signed between said expert, Mr David Spiteri Gingell, and the Ministry for Social Policy and Children’s Rights, represented by Permanent Secretary Mark Musù, on 21 February 2024 (evidence 3).

The monitoring report contains the evaluation of the following unemployment benefits:

1. the benchmark Unemployment Benefits Mechanism (hereinafter referred to as “UB”), which was reformed and became earnings-related in 2024 (evidence 2, pages 3 and 4);
2. the Special Unemployment Benefit (hereinafter referred to as “SUB”), which is tailored to meet the needs of vulnerable households (evidence 2, page 4); and
3. the Unemployment Assistance (hereinafter referred to as “UA”), though which support is provided to low-income individuals unable to secure employment after exhausting contributory benefits (evidence 2, page 5).

The monitoring report analyses the adequacy of the above-mentioned unemployment benefits in relation to internationally recognised reference indicators, including the National Minimum Wage (hereinafter referred to as “NMW”), the Average Wage (hereinafter referred to as “AW”), the EU Minimum Wage Directive (hereinafter referred to as “MWD”) standards, as well as International Labour Organisation (hereinafter referred to as “ILO”) indicators (evidence 2, page 4). A key component of the evaluation is the application of the OECD TaxBEN Model (hereinafter referred to as “TBM”) for 2024 allowing for a comparable analysis of social protection systems and ensuring that the main findings are aligned with existing global benchmarks (evidence 2, page 20).

According to the report, the introduction of the earnings based UB mechanism in 2024 addressed key gaps in fairness and adequacy for middle-income earners. According to the simulations, UB exceed ILO and EU MWD adequacy benchmarks, surpassing the 60% guaranteed minimum wage (hereinafter

referred to as “GMW”) threshold and achieving a net replacement rate (hereinafter referred to as “NRR”) of 64.9% for individuals earning 67% of the AW. Additionally, the phased tapering of replacement rates (60% for six weeks, 55% for ten weeks, and 50% for the final ten weeks) incentivises early re-employment, supporting active labour market policies.

The evaluation of the SUB points to its progressive design providing greater support for larger households. For instance, a single-person household achieves an annualised NRR of 69.9% of the NMW, while an eight-member household achieves 85.4%. This responsiveness to household size highlights the SUB's effectiveness in alleviating poverty and ensuring financial adequacy. The SUB also aligns well with EU and ILO benchmarks -exceeding the ILO benchmark of 45% of AW and the EU MWD benchmark of 50% of AW for all forms of household sizes.

The analysis highlights that UA effectively supports low-income earners, achieving a robust NRR of 75.7% for individuals earning the NMW and surpassing EU MWD benchmarks, including the 60% GMW and 50% AW thresholds. However, for average earners, the NRR drops to 38.0%, revealing an equity gap as the flat-rate structure does not account for higher living costs or proportional income replacement. Median-income earners (67% of AW) see moderate adequacy at 53.1%, aligning with international benchmarks but still limited by its flat-rate design. According to the report, there are additional Active Labour Market Policies (ALMPs) aimed to support the transition from unemployment assistance to employment which are reinforcing at their turn the UA's role as a temporary safety net.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 6.5 Independent review on the transfer of summary cases from the Police to the Attorney General’s (AG) Office

Related Measure: C6.R2 Create a separate prosecution service

Qualitative Indicator: Independent review on the transfer of offences and summary cases from the Police to the Attorney General's Office

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this measure is to make the prosecution services better function. The reform consists of the transfer of prosecution cases from the police to the Attorney General’s office, and the Attorney General’s office recruiting additional officers.

Milestone 6.5 consists of a review to be undertaken by an independent contractor on the transfer of offences and summary cases from the Police to the Attorney General’s Office. The review shall formulate policy recommendations for the shift of offences and summary cases.

Milestone 6.5 is the third milestone of the reform, and it follows the completion of Milestone 6.9 related to the entry into force of new Criminal Code for more legislative clarity following the taking over of prosecutions of serious offences by the Attorney General and Target 6.7 related to the employment of new officers within the Attorney General’s Office. Milestone 6.13 is one of two milestones of this reform assessed under this payment request, together with Milestone 6.8 related to the transfer of cases to the Attorney General's Office. It will be followed by milestone 6.6 related to the entry into force of legal act(s) on the transfer of offences, as defined in the independent study, from the Police to the Attorney General's Office.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence.	Short description
1	Summary note	A summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Letter of Engagement	Letter of Engagement entered between FieldFisher and Ministry of Justice Signed 2 April 2025

3	Delivery of Report	Email from Field fisher to the Ministry of Justice indicating delivery of report Dated 15 December 2025
4	Acceptance of Report	Email indicating the Ministry of Justice's acceptance of Report Dated 18 December 2025
5	Executive Summary	Executive Summary of Report accessible online Dated December 2025
6	Website with link to the Executive Summary	Screenshot of the website and to the website where the Executive Summary can be accessed found on https://justice.gov.mt/resources/ (under "RRP Milestones 2025") and directly https://justice.gov.mt/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Executive-Summary-1-for-M6.5-December-2025.pdf
7	Independent Review	Full Independent Review Report Dated December 2025

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone

Independent review on the transfer of offences and summary cases from the Police to the Attorney General's Office

The independence of the contractor is demonstrated in the Letter of Engagement, which in the Scope of Work states Fieldfisher has been engaged "to conduct an Independent Review on the proposed transfer of summary cases from the police to the Attorney General's office" (evidence 2, page 1). The Letter of Engagement also includes a Conflict of Interest clause, which states Fieldfisher "will not act where we have a conflict of interests save with your consent in the limited circumstances permitted by the Solicitors Regulation Authority Rules of Professional Conduct" (evidence 2, page 8). The review also states Fieldfisher has "been instructed by the Ministry for Justice and Reform of the Construction

Sector (the "Ministry for Justice") to prepare that independent assessment" (evidence 7, page 8). Moreover, Fieldfisher is a UK headquartered law firm, independent from the Maltese government.

A review shall be undertaken by an independent contractor on the transfer of offences and summary cases from the Police to the Attorney General's Office.

The Maltese Ministry for Justice and Reform of the Construction Sector (hereinafter referred to as "MJR") engaged an independent contractor, law firm FieldFisher, to carry out an independent review on the transfer of offences and summary cases from the Police to the Office of the Attorney General (hereinafter referred to as "OAG").

The Letter of Engagement from Fieldfisher, acknowledging the agreement to carry out the review, and establishing the standard terms and conditions, was signed by the MJR on 2 April 2025 (evidence 2, page 5). The report on the transfer of summary cases from the Police to the Attorney General's Office was delivered to the MJR on 15 December 2025 via email (evidence 3). The MJR acknowledged receipt of the finalised report also via email on 18 December 2025 (evidence 4).

The review shall formulate policy recommendations for the shift of offences and summary cases

The independent review conducted by Fieldfisher formulates policy recommendations for the transfer of offences and summary cases from the Police to the Office of the Attorney General (evidence 7, page 56 to 64).

The review recommends that priority should be given to successfully implementing the near-term workload increases at the OAG, which includes the transfer of non-summary offences from the Police to the OAG assessed under milestone 6.8. The review recommends that the remainder of the non-summary offences be transferred in two tranches: in October 2026 and October 2027. The review accepts the Maltese Government's concern that these tasks should take precedence over the transfer of summary cases, in order for the OAG to be able to absorb its increasing workload (evidence 7, page 58).

Regarding the transfer of summary cases, which are defined as those offences carrying a penalty of a fine or prison sentence of less than two years (evidence 7, page 8). The review finds that this will be a more complex challenge, requiring new operational models and revised policies, processes and procedures. In particular, effective IT systems and competent people resources will be key to success (evidence 7, page 57). This is due to the substantial amount of summary cases to be transferred, which are also typically processed through the courts in a different way to more serious cases. Moreover, the OAG is only mid-way through its five-year plan to increase its resources and efficiency (evidence 7, page 51).

Therefore, the review finds that the early transfer of all summary cases in a single tranche to the OAG from the Police is not feasible (evidence 7, page 59). The review recommends that an inter-departmental committee (hereinafter referred to as "the IDC") be created to define how the transfer should take place, against the recommendations made in the review. The review outlines several recommendations for the IDC to consider (evidence 5, page 4)

- Whether a new small unit in the Office of the Attorney General should be created, of between two and three experienced Attorney General prosecutors, and including Change Managers to initiate the practical planning of the transfer. This unit could develop into the summary cases prosecutions unit over time;
- How case transfer will need to be staggered over time;
- If, instead, a single mass transfer of cases is decided upon how this would be carefully planned and implemented (the review flags that this approach carries significant implementation risk and would also result in a hiatus in case transfer, potentially until 2030);

- The need to review that the proposed IT systems developments in the OAG, the Police and the Courts Service will meet the full functional and interoperability requirements required to handle the summary case workload;
- The creation of "Test Beds" to support the detailed development of the OAG target operating model and to better understand the detailed requirements related to case handling and case transfer;
- The skills and resources needed by the OAG to service the prosecution of summary cases;
- The need to strengthen the current OAG operating model to provide more senior management resource.

The executive summary of the review shall be published.

The Commission services accessed the link provided by the authorities (evidence 6) on 27 January to verify that the executive summary is published and accessible online. This check was completed successfully, confirming that the executive summary is published online.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactory fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 6.8, Transfer of cases to the Attorney General's Office

Related Measure: C6.R2 Create a separate prosecution service

Qualitative Indicator: Transfer of cases to the Attorney General's Office

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this measure is to make the prosecution services better function. The reform consists of the transfer of prosecution cases from the police to the Attorney General's office, and the Attorney General's office recruiting additional officers.

Milestone 6.8 concerns the entry into force of legal act(s) that shall grant the Attorney General the power to decide whether a prosecution shall be instituted in at least 30 categories of offences.

Milestone 6.8 is the fourth milestone of the reform. It follows the completion of milestone 6.9 related to the entry into force of changes to the Criminal Code to provide more legislative clarity following the taking over of prosecutions of serious offences by the Attorney General, and target 6.7 related to the recruitment of new officers for the Attorney General's office. It is completed in parallel with milestone 6.5, related to the independent review on the transfer of offences and summary cases from the Police to the Attorney General's Office. It will be followed by milestone 6.6, related to the further transfer of offences from the Police to the Attorney General's Office.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description

1	Summary document	A summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	LN 378 of 2020 Published in Government Gazette of Malta No. 20,490 on 30 September 2020	Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) Regulations, 2020, granting the Attorney General the power to decide whether a prosecution shall be instituted Accessible from https://legislation.mt/eli/ln/2020/378/eng Entered into force 1 October 2020
3	LN 367 of 2021 Published in Government Gazette of Malta No. 20,702 on 20 September 2021	(Amendment) Regulations, 2021, granting the Attorney General the power to decide whether a prosecution shall be instituted Accessible from https://legislation.mt/eli/ln/2021/367/eng Entered into force 1 October 2021
4	LN 241 of 2022 Published in Government Gazette of Malta No. 20,930 on 27 September 2022	(Amendment) Regulations, 2022, granting the Attorney General the power to decide whether a prosecution shall be instituted Accessible from https://legislation.mt/eli/ln/2022/241/eng Entered into force 1 October 2022
5	LN 225 of 2023 Published in Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,123 on 29 September 2023	(Amendment) Regulations, 2023, granting the Attorney General the power to decide whether a prosecution shall be instituted Accessible from https://legislation.mt/eli/ln/2023/225/eng Entered into force 1 October 2023

6	<p>LN 192 of 2024</p> <p>Published in Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,299 on 09 August 2024</p>	<p>(Amendment) Regulations, 2024, granting the Attorney General the power to decide whether a prosecution shall be instituted</p> <p>Accessible from https://legislation.mt/eli/ln/2024/192/eng</p> <p>Entered into force 1 October 2024</p>
7	<p>Criminal Code, as last amended by XXXVII of 2025 – Criminal Code (Amendment No. 5) Act, 2025</p>	<p>Criminal Code, to amend and consolidate the Penal Laws and Laws of Criminal Procedure</p> <p>Accessible from https://legislation.mt/eli/cap/9/20251118/eng</p> <p>Published in Government Gazette on 18 November 2025</p>
8	<p>2024 Annual Report of the Office of the Attorney General</p>	<p>2024 Annual Report of the Office of the Attorney General</p> <p>Accessible from https://attorneygeneral.mt/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/AG-Annual-Report-2024-22.04.2025.pdf</p> <p>Cut-off date of information published in the report recorded as 31 December 2024.</p>

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

Entry into force of legal act(s) that shall grant the Attorney General the power to decide whether a prosecution shall be instituted in at least 30 categories of offences.

Malta has provided five Legal Notices (evidence 2 to 6), published in the Government Gazette, each containing the provision *“The Attorney General shall have the power to decide whether a prosecution*

shall be instituted in the following categories of offences[...]” in Article 1, 1A,1B,1C,1D of the Schedule of the Legal Notices respectively.

The Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) Regulations, 2020 (Legal Notice 378 of 2020) (hereinafter referred to as ‘LN 378’) was published in the Official Gazette of Malta on 30 September 2020. According to its article 1(2), LN 378 entered into force on 1 October 2020.

The Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021 (Legal Notice 367 of 2021) (hereinafter referred to as ‘LN 367’) was published in the Official Gazette of Malta on 20 September 2021. According to its article 1(2), LN 367 entered into force on 1 October 2021.

The Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2022 (L.N. 241 of 2022) (hereinafter referred to as ‘LN 241’) was published in the Official Gazette of Malta on 27 September 2022. According to its article 1(2), LN 241 entered into force on 1 October 2022.

The Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 (L.N. 225 of 2023) (hereinafter referred to as ‘LN 225’) was published in the Official Gazette of Malta on 29 September 2023. According to its article 1(2), LN 225 entered into force on 1 October 2023.

The Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 (L.N. 192 of 2024) (hereinafter referred to as ‘LN 192’) was published in the Official Gazette of Malta on 9 August 2024. According to its article 1(2), LN 378 entered into force on 1 October 2023.

The Commission services accessed the link provided by the authorities on 11 December 2025 to verify that the Legal Notices provided were published in the Government Gazette. This verification was completed successfully, confirming that the Legal Notices were published in the Government Gazette.

The Legal Notices document the phased legislative reform through successive amendments to the Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) Regulations, culminating in the full transfer of prosecutorial discretion for over 30 categories of offences to the Office of the Attorney General (hereinafter referred to as “the OAG”) by the end of 2024. The below table lists the categories of offences transferred to the OAG. According to the evidence provided, Malta transferred 32 offences to the OAG, thus exceeding the goal of Milestone 6.8 by 2.

Legal Notice	Title	Government Gazette Publication Date	Entry into force of legal act	Article of the schedule	Category of offences	No.
LN 378 of 2020 (evidence 2)	Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) Regulations, 2020	30/09/2020	01/10/2020	1(a)	Genocide, Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes under Title I of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code;	1
				1(b)	Crimes Against the Safety of the Government under Title I	2

					Bis of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code;	
				1(c)	Acts of terrorism, Funding of Terrorism and Ancillary Offences under Sub-Title IVA of Title IX of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code;	3
				1(d)	Wilful Homicide under Sub-Title I of Title VIII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	4
				1(e)	Unlawful Exaction, Extortion, Bribery, Embrace and Corruption, Trading in Influence, and Accounting Offences under Sub-title IV of Title III of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	5
				1(f)	Crimes of money laundering under article 3 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act except where such crimes are prosecuted together with crimes against the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance or the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance	6
				1(g)	Cases of fraud and misappropriation where the financial loss caused is of at least fifty thousand euro (€50, 000)	7
				1(h)	Cases of evasion of customs, excise or other import duty where the duty evaded amounts to at least five hundred thousand euro (€500, 000)	8
LN 367 of 2021 (evidence 3)	Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions)	20/09/2021	01/10/2021	1(a)	Traffic of Persons under sub-title VIII Bis of Title VIII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	9

	(Amendment) Regulations, 2021			1(b)	Piracy under sub-title IVB of title IX of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	10
				1(c)	Rape, abduction, defilement of minors and instigation, encouragement or facilitation of defilement of minors under sub-title II of Title VII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	11
				1(d)	Causing or permitting an elderly or a dependent adult to suffer under circumstances likely to produce grievous bodily harm or death; grievous bodily harm followed by death; offences relating to crimes against property and public safety under sub-title XI of title VIII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	12
				1(e)	Computer misuse under sub-title V of Title IX of Book First of the Criminal Code	13
				1(e)	Wilful damage or destruction of cultural property under article 70 of the Cultural Heritage Act	14
				1(f)	Endangering safety at airports under article 8 of the Airports and Civil Aviation (Security) Act	15
LN 241 of 2022 (evidence 4)	Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2022	27/09/2022	01/10/2022	1(a)	Forgery of Government debentures, forgery of Government, judicial or official acts and counterfeiting of the public seal of Malta under sub-title I of Title V of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	16
				1(b)	Forgery of acts by public officer under sub-title II of Title V of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code and forgery or uttering of currency	17

					under sub-title III of Title V of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	
				1(c)	Prostituting of descendant under age by ascendant, of spouse under age or of minor by husband or wife or tutor, of descendant or spouse of age, by ascendant or husband or wife under sub-title I of Title VII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	18
				1(d)	Instigation with violence of persons under age to prostitution or to participate in a pornographic performance, inducing persons under age to prostitution or to participation in a pornographic performance, participation in sexual activities with persons under the age of sixteen(16)years, unlawful sexual activities, compelling or inducing a person of age to prostitution, non-consensual act of a sexual nature, meeting a child following sexual grooming etc., advertisement of sexual tourism under sub-title II of Title VII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	19
				1(e)	Female genital mutilation, enforced sterilization, forced marriage, luring of a person to the territory of another State to marry forcefully under sub-title IX of Title VIII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	20
				1(f)	Causing explosion likely to endanger life or property, discharge etc. of lethal device, possession, use etc. of nuclear material, use of radioactive material, lethal device or	21

					nuclear facility with intent to cause death, unlawful possession of radioactive material or making or possession of a lethal device, setting on fire of arsenals, etc., arson endangering life, arson to the common danger, arson without danger of life, arson of vineyards, etc., destruction by the springing of a mine, exhibition of false lights, etc., with danger to navigation and setting on fire of one's own property under sub-title IV of Title IX of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	
				1(g)	Illicit importation of radioactive waste under article 39 of the Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Act	22
LN 225 of 2023 (evidence 5)	Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023	29/09/2023	01/10/2023	1(a)	Grievous bodily harm; grievous bodily harm with arms proper; other cases of grievous bodily harm; grievous bodily harm from which death ensues under sub-title II of Title VIII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	23
				1(B)	Involuntary homicide; involuntary homicide in the course of theft or attempted theft or attempted theft under sub-title IV of Title VIII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	24
				1(c)	Infanticide under sub-title VIII of Title VIII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	25
				1(d)	Stalking involving fear of violence, serious alarm or distress under sub-title IX of	26

					Title VIII of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	
				1(e)	Aggravated theft under sub-title I of Title IX of Part II of Book First of the Criminal Code	27
				1(f)	Offences against the National Interest (Enabling Powers) Act	28
				1(g)	Offences against the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act	29
LN 192 of 2024 (evidence 6)	Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2024	09/08/2024	01/10/2024	1(a)	Offences against the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance, where the Attorney General directed that the offences may be prosecuted before the Criminal Court or the Court of Magistrates as a court of criminal jurisdiction, provided that the offence shall not fall within the original jurisdiction of the Court of Magistrates as a court of criminal jurisdiction	30
				1(b)	Offences against the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance where the Attorney General directed that the offences may be prosecuted before the Criminal Court or the Court of Magistrates as a court of criminal jurisdiction, provided that the offence shall not fall within the original jurisdiction of the Court of Magistrates as a court of criminal jurisdiction	31
				1(c)	Offences of money laundering as provided for in article 3 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act including where such offences are prosecuted together with offences against the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance or the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance	32

						Total: 32
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Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the reform consists of the transfer of prosecution cases from the police to the Attorney General’s office.**

The Criminal Code, as last amended in 2025, (page 209, evidence 7) outlines the “Powers and duties of the Attorney General and the Executive Police in Respect of Criminal Prosecutions”.

Article 346 provides for the Police’s role in prosecution of criminal offences. Article 346(1) describes the responsibilities of the police, including investigation, evidence collection, and bringing the offenders before the judicial authorities.

Article 347A states that, without prejudice to Article 346, the Attorney General shall the power to prosecute any offence, alone or together with the Executive Police or together with any other authority having prosecution powers.

The Legal Notices further specify the offences the OAG has the power to prosecute for the crimes listed in the Legal Notices. Page 3 of the Legal Notices (evidence 2 to 6) states “...*the Executive Police shall not on or after the 1st October* [2020, 2021,2022, 2023, 2024 respectively] *institute or pursue any prosecution for the crimes listed in item 1*[1, 1A,1B,1C,1D respectively] *in the absence of a decision to prosecute having been taken by the Attorney General.*” The crimes listed in Item 1 of the Legal Notices (1, 1A,1B,1C,1D respectively) are the 32 offences listed above.

Moreover, the 2024 Annual Report of the OAG, also states the listed offences have transferred from the Police to the Attorney General’s Office. “[...]During 2024, the Office was prosecuting the most serious offences taken over from the Police in accordance with the Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) Regulations, 2020 (Legal Notice 378 of 2020), which came into effect on 1 October 2020. Following the entry into force of the Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021 (Legal Notice 367 of 2021) on 1 October 2021, additional offences were taken over from the Police. Furthermore, as of 1 October 2022, the Office took over even further offences from the Police (Legal Notice 241 of 2022). As of 1 October 2023, the Office also started prosecuting the offences included in the Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 (Legal Notice 225 of 2023). The final phase of the reform was implemented in 2024 with the entry into force of the Prosecution of Offences (Transitory Provisions) (Amendment) Regulations, 2024 (Legal Notice 192 of 2024)” (page 5, evidence 8).

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactory fulfilled

Number and name of the Target: 6.12 Training Programmes on anti-corruption

Related Measure: MT-C[C6]-R[R3] Reinforcing the institutional framework capacity to fight against corruption; Implementation of the National Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy (NAFCS)

Quantitative Indicator: Number

Baseline: 0

Goal: 2

Time: Q1 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this reform is to increase the capacity of the Maltese institutions to fight against corruption. The measure consists of the update of the 2008 National Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and actions related to the national risk assessment, training for officials in national authorities, documentary repository and whistle-blower database.

Target 6.12 concerns the delivery of two training programmes on Corruption Investigation and Corruption Risk Management.

Target 6.12 is the first and sole target of this reform, it follows the completion of milestone 6.10, related to the online publication of the Updated National Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy, and milestone 6.11, related to the National Risk Assessment and follow up strategy on fraud and corruption. It will be followed by milestone 6.13, concerning the Document Repository System accessible to institutions forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee (also assessed under this payment request), and by milestone 6.14, related to the creation of a database of whistleblowing data, which will be assessed in the subsequent payment request.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	Duly justifying how the target (including all the constitutive elements) has been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Courses' Training Outline	Training programmes of the: 1.International Certificate in Corruption Risk Management (ICCRM); and 2.International Certificate in Corruption Investigation (ICCI). Both trainings issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finances & Accountancy (CIPFA)

3	Welcome to International Certificate in Corruption Investigation (ICCI) email	Email from the Chartered Institute of Public Finances & Accountancy (CIPFA) to the first cohort of participants of the ICCI Training
4	OPM Malta ICCI Group 1 Training Schedule	Attachment 1 to the International Certificate in Corruption Investigation (ICCI) Welcome email. This attachment contains a detailed breakdown of the training schedule for the ICCI course.
5	E-Learning Platform – Learner Guide	Attachment 2 to the International Certificate in Corruption Investigation (ICCI) Welcome email in Annex B1. The attachment contains a step-by-step guide on how to access the e-learning platform provided by the CIPFA.
6	Corruption Investigation: Certificates of Completion	Original certificates given to the participants of the Corruption Investigation training programme
7	Welcome to International Certificate in Corruption Risk Management (ICCRM) email	Email from the Chartered Institute of Public Finances & Accountancy (CIPFA) to the first cohort of participants of the ICCRM Training
8	E-Learning platform Learner guide	Attachment 1 to the ICCRM Welcome email in Annex D1. The attachment contains a step-by-step guide on how to access the e-learning platform provided by the CIPFA.
9	Guide to registration for my CIPFA	Attachment 2 to the ICCRM Welcome email in Annex D1
10	Corruption Risk Management: Certificates of Completion	Original certificates given to the participants of the Corruption Risk Management training programme

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

Two training programmes, on Corruption Investigation and Corruption Risk Management, shall be delivered. Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the measure consists of [...] training for officials in national authorities.**

The training on Corruption Investigation was delivered via email on 10 May 2023 to training participants from the national authorities (evidence 3) by the Chartered Institute of Public Finances & Accountancy (CIPFA) (evidence 2, page 2), to the first cohort of training participants indicating the start of the training. The qualification is focused on officials from the Maltese national authorities with a need for expertise in the field of “*investigation and case management of allegations of corruption*”, as well as anyone wanting to conduct “*corruption investigations or learn in depth about the corruption investigation process*” (evidence 2, page 2).

The training outline (evidence 2, page 2) explains that the programme was delivered in self-paced e-learning modules supported by a technical reference manual. The course was also followed by face-to-face training “*to embed the technical and theoretical content of the e-learning in a practical context*” (evidence 2, page 2). The self-paced e-learning consisted of 14 modules:

- i. Corruption – international definitions, typologies and frameworks;*
- ii. Ethics, professional behaviour and corruption investigation standards;*
- iii. Evidence – common rules and principles;*
- iv. Investigation modelling;*
- v. Intelligence Model;*
- vi. Questioned documents;*
- vii. Evidence management;*
- viii. Operational briefings;*
- ix. Searches;*
- x. Digital forensics;*
- xi. Corruption investigation management;*
- xii. Investigative interviewing: suspects, witnesses and statements;*
- xiii. Recovering the proceeds of corruption – an overview; and*
- xiv. Reporting investigation findings.*

The participation of members of the national authorities in this training is confirmed by the welcome email sent by the CIPFA to the first cohort of training participants (evidence 3), which includes the email domain of the respective national authorities. The email also contains as attachments the training schedule (evidence 4) and the e-training platform guide for learners (evidence 5).

In addition, the authorities provided 11 original certificates of training completion, issued to the participants of the Corruption Investigation programme (evidence 6, pages 1 to 11). Each of the certificates contain the name of the participant, which matches the name displayed in the welcome email sent by the CIPFA to the first cohort of participants. Furthermore, each of the original certificates is signed by the Chief Executive of CIPFA and dated.

The training on Corruption Risk Management, delivered via email on 31 July 2023 (evidence 7) by the CIPFA (evidence 2, page 1), is a programme focused on officials from the Maltese national authorities and developed “to train and qualify Corruption Risk Specialists to undertake and report on entity-wide corruption risk assessments and prevention exercises”. The delivered email indicated the start of the training programme.

Following a similar format to the training on Corruption Investigation, the training outline indicates that the course was delivered in a self-paced e-learning modules, complemented by an online multiple-choice exam (evidence 2, page 1). The self-paced e-learning consisted of 10 modules:

- i. *Corruption: definitions, impact, and international frameworks;*
- ii. *Corruption in practice;*
- iii. *Assessing and Managing Corruption Risk;*
- iv. *Principles of Risk Assessment – the Risk life cycle and Risk responses;*
- v. *The Assurance framework;*
- vi. *Undertaking a Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) I: the approach;*
- vii. *Undertaking a Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) II: the practice;*
- viii. *Undertaking a Corruption Risk Assessment (CRA) III: the approach, understanding and testing controls;*
- ix. *Managing and implementing a CRA; and*
- x. *CRA in practice: key risk prevention, mitigation and compliance measures and reporting.*

The participation of members of the national authorities in this training is confirmed by the welcome email sent by the CIPFA to the first cohort of training participants (evidence 7), which include the email domains of the respective national authorities. The email also includes as attachments the e-learning platform guide for learners (evidence 8) and the guide to registry in the e-learning platform (evidence 9).

The authorities provided 22 original certificates of training completion received by the participants of the Corruption Investigation programme (evidence 10, pages 1 to 22). Each of the certificates contain the name of the participant, which matches with the name displayed in the welcome email sent by the CIPFA to the first cohort of participants. Furthermore, each of the certificates is signed by the Chief Executive of CIPFA and dated.

The email domains displayed in the welcome emails for both training programmes (evidence 3 and 7) are official domains administered and issued exclusively under the authority and control of the Maltese national authorities. These domains are not publicly accessible or available for private registration but reserved for use by public institutions and entities forming part of the national authorities. Therefore, to hold this email domain it is a pre-requisite to be a public officer or civil servant, or an employee of a Maltese national authorities.

In addition, it was further verified that the official email domains were associated with individuals by cross-checking the names appearing in the official government email addresses and the names indicated in the official certificates of training completion (evidence 6 and 10). This cross-check confirmed consistency between the email account holders and the individuals formally recorded as having completed the respective training programmes.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 6.13, Document Repository System

Related Measure: MT-C[C6]-R[R3], Reinforcing the institutional framework capacity to fight against corruption; Implementation of the National Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy (NAFCS)

Qualitative Indicator: Document Repository System accessible to institutions forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this reform is to increase the capacity of the Maltese institutions to fight against corruption. The measure consists of the update of the 2008 National Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy and actions related to the national risk assessment, training for officials in national authorities, documentary repository and whistle-blower database.

Milestone 6.13 concerns the access to the document repository system for the institutions forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee.

Milestone 6.13 is the third milestone of this reform, and it follows the completion of milestone 6.10, related to the online publication of the Updated National Anti-Fraud and Corruption Strategy, and milestone 6.11, related to online publication of the National Fraud Risk Assessment, and target 6.12, related to the training programmes on anti-corruption (also assessed under this payment request). It will be followed by milestone 6.14, related to a database collating whistleblowing data, which will be assessed in the subsequent payment request.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	Duly justifying how the target (including all the constitutive elements) has been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Central Documentary Repository System (CDRS) Requirements Document	Document outlining the full system requirements and operational framework for the Document Repository System, compiled by the Co-ordinating Committee Sub-Committee.
3	Central Documentary Repository System (CDRS) User Nomination Email	Email requesting user nominations for granting access rights to the CDRS
4	Central Documentary Repository System (CDRS) User Access Rights Granted	Email confirming the granting of CDRS access rights containing link to the repository system in Microsoft SharePoint

5	Central Documentary Repository System (CDRS) Declaration Form	Declaration Form confirming the operationalisation of the CDRS, signed by the Director-General of the Internal Audit & Investigations Department (IAID) and the Chief Information Officer of the Information Management Unit (IMU)
6	Central Documentary Repository System (CDRS) User-Institution Access (Redacted)	Screenshot extract from Microsoft SharePoint listing user access and institutions
7	Central Documentary Repository System (CDRS) Instruction Notes	Instruction notes, compiled jointly by the IAID and the IMU
8	Organigramme Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights	Link to the public webpage containing the organigramme of the Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights: https://family.gov.mt/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/WEB-MSPCOrganigramEN.pdf
9	Security Service Act	Webpage link to the Security Service Act (Chapter 391 of the Laws of Malta): https://legislation.mt/eli/cap/391/eng/pdf Security Service Act entered into force 26 July 1996, and it was published on 1 October 2019.
10	Structure of Co-Ordinating Committee	Link to public webpage containing the list of representative members forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee: https://iaid.gov.mt/en/the-department/co-ordinating-committee/

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

A document repository system shall be made accessible to the institutions forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee.

Furthermore, in line with the measure description, **the measure consists of [...] documentary repository, [...].**

The Commission services conducted an on-the-spot check on 22 December 2025 to verify the list of institutions forming part of the Committee were granted access to the Document Repository System (hereinafter referred to as “the CDRS”) based on the list of users with access to the system (evidence 6), as well as the main functionalities the CDRS (namely, the access to the system, the storage of electronic documents in the CDRS and the file sharing features amongst institutions forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee). This check was completed successfully, confirming that the document repository system was made accessible to the institutions forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee (as listed in evidence 6). Additional evidence provided shows that representative members from the national authorities were nominated (evidence 3) and confirmed the granting of access to the CDRS (evidence 4) in an exchange of emails

The selection of the system’s functionalities to confirm the institutions access to the System during the on-the-spot check was derived from the document outlining the CDRS requirements, compiled and provided by the *Co-ordinating Committee Sub-Committee*, which is responsible for the “identification and development” of the CDRS (evidence 2, page 1). Three main features are required for the CDRS to be made accessible (evidence 2, page 2):

- I. “Store electronic documents.
- II. Offer a centralized access to documents that can be easily retrieved by the members of the Co-ordinating Committee.
- III. Provide the necessary security for sensitive information.”

The objective of these features is the development of a system that can “strengthen collaboration on anti-fraud and anti-corruption among the national authorities forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee” (evidence 7, page 1). The number of national authorities with access to the CDRS is reflected under the declaration form signed by the Director-General of the Internal Audit & Investigations Department (hereinafter referred to as “IAID”) and the Chief Information Officer of the Information Management Unit (hereinafter referred to as “IMU”) (evidence 5).

In total, a list of 29 members, including their names and usernames, and the associated institutions they represent within the Committee, have been granted access to the CDRS (evidence 6). The following table illustrates each of the representative members and their associated institutions for the 29 users that were granted access to the CDRS:

Representative member of IAID Co-ordinating committee as listed on public website	Institution/Department Name	Institution Acronym
Director General IAID as Chairperson	Internal Audit and Investigations Dept. as Chairperson	OPM
Representative of the Financial Investigations Directorate within IAID	Internal Audit and Investigations Dept.	OPM

Representative member of IAID Co-ordinating committee as listed on public website	Institution/Department Name	Institution Acronym
Representative of the Financial Investigations Directorate within IAID	Internal Audit and Investigations Dept.	OPM
N/A	Information Management Unit, Office of the Prime Minister	OPM
N/A	Information Management Unit, Office of the Prime Minister	OPM
Representative of the Office of the Attorney General	Attorney General's Office	Attorney General
Representative of the Office of the Attorney General	Attorney General's Office	Attorney General
Representative of the Office of the State Advocate	Office of the State Advocate	State Advocate
Representative of the Office of the State Advocate	Office of the State Advocate	State Advocate
Representative of the National Audit Office	National Audit Office	NAO
Representative of the National Audit Office	National Audit Office	NAO
Representative of the Malta Police Force	Malta Police Force	Police
Representative of the Malta Police Force	Malta Police Force	Police
Representative of the Customs Department (merged as Malta Tax and Customs Administration	Malta Tax and Customs Administration	MTCA
Representative of the Customs Department (merged as Malta Tax and Customs Administration	Malta Tax and Customs Administration	MTCA

Representative member of IAID Co-ordinating committee as listed on public website	Institution/Department Name	Institution Acronym
Representative of the Office of the Commissioner for Revenue (merged as Malta Tax and Customs Administration)	Malta Tax and Customs Administration	MTCA
Representative of the Funds and Programmes Division (EU Funds Managing Authority)	Funds and Programmes Division	MFI
Representative of the Planning and Priorities Coordination Division (EU Funds Managing Authority)	Planning and Priorities Coordination Division	MFI
Representative of the Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit	Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit	FIAU
Representative of the Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit	Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit	FIAU
Representative for Malta Security Service	Ministry for Home Affairs, Security and Employment	MHSE
Representative of the Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights	Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights	DSS
Representative of the Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights	Ministry for Social Policy and Children's Rights	DSS
Representative of the Department of Contracts	Department of Contracts	DOC
Representative of the Department of Contracts	Department of Contracts	DOC
Representative of the Asset Recovery Bureau	Asset Recovery Bureau	ARB
Representative of the Asset Recovery Bureau	Asset Recovery Bureau	ARB
Representative of the Permanent Commission Against Corruption	Permanent Commission Against Corruption	PCAC

Representative member of IAID Co-ordinating committee as listed on public website	Institution/Department Name	Institution Acronym
Representative of the Permanent Commission Against Corruption	Permanent Commission Against Corruption	PCAC

The Maltese authorities provided the hyperlink to the website of the Internal Audit and Investigations Department containing the structure of the representative members forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee (evidence 10). The Commission services accessed the link provided by the authorities on 4 December 2025 to verify the structure of the representative members forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee and if the list of institutions that form part of the Co-ordinating Committee matches the list of users with access to the CDRS (evidence 6). This check was completed successfully, confirming that the institutions forming part of the Co-ordinating Committee have access to the CDRS. <https://iaid.gov.mt/en/the-department/co-ordinating-committee/>

For the two entities where the name of the entity granted access to the CDRS slightly differs from that listed in the list of Coordinating Committee members (<https://iaid.gov.mt/en/the-department/co-ordinating-committee/>) the following refers:

- With regards to the representative of the Ministry for Social Policy and Children’s Rights, the Commission services accessed the public webpage (<https://family.gov.mt/ministry/>) on 08 January 2026 to verify the relationship. This check was completed successfully, confirming the existence of a link between the representative member and the Ministry for Social Policy and Children’s Rights (hereinafter referred to as “DSS”), based on the Ministry’s organigramme (evidence 8).
- Concerning the link between the Representative of Malta’s Security Service (hereinafter referred to as ‘MSS’) and the Ministry for Home Affairs, Security and Employment, the Commission Services assessed the information publicly available in the Security Service Act (Chapter 391 of the Laws of Malta, entered into force 26 July 1996 and published on 1 October 2019.). The Act, establishes that the MSS operates under the authority of a Minister designated by the Prime Minister as responsible for the Security Service (evidence 9), currently falling within the portfolio of the Ministry for Home Affairs, Security and Employment.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 6.16 The Permanent Commission Against Corruption shall have an increased budget for 2024 (compared to the budget for 2021) and recruit at least two people

Related Measure: C6.R4 Reform the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC)

Qualitative Indicator:

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of the measure is to allow for a more independent functioning of the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (hereinafter referred to as “PCAC”) with greater resources. The measure consists of reforming the Permanent Commission against Corruption, including how the Chairperson and members are appointed, and its operations and resources.

The milestone aims to increase the budget of the Permanent Commission Against Corruption for 2024 (compared to the budget for 2021) and recruit at least two people.

Milestone 6.18 is the second milestones of this reform, and it follows milestone 6.15 related to the entry into force of legislation granting statutory reinforcement to the PCAC. It will be followed by milestone 6.16 related to the recruitment of staff and increased budget for the PCAC and milestone 6.17 related the creation of a digital registry of information cases that is accessible by the PCAC.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary note	A summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Extract from 2022 Financial Estimates	Extract from 2022 Financial Estimate for Ministry responsible for Justice Includes the Approved Estimate for the PCAC for year 2021 Accessible from https://finance.gov.mt/the_budget_2022/ Published 11 October 2021
3	Extract from 2023 Financial Estimates	Extract from 2023 Financial Estimates for Ministry responsible for Justice Includes the Actual Expenditure for the PCAC for year 2021

		<p>Accessible from https://finance.gov.mt/the_budget_2023/</p> <p>Published 24 October 2022</p>
4	Extract from 2025 Financial Estimates	<p>Extract from 2025 Financial Estimates for Ministry responsible for Justice</p> <p>Includes the Approved Estimate for the PCAC for year 2024</p> <p>Accessible from https://finance.gov.mt/budget25/</p> <p>Published 28 October 2024</p>
5	Extract from 2026 Financial Estimates	<p>Extract from 2026 Financial Estimates for Ministry responsible for Justice</p> <p>Includes the Actual Expenditure for the PCAC year 2024</p> <p>Accessible from https://finance.gov.mt/budget26/</p> <p>Published 27 October 2025</p>
6	Extract from Government Gazette	<p>Government Gazette notice including the external calls for the recruitment of Assistant Managers and Senior Manager</p> <p>Accessible from https://www.gov.mt/en/Government/DOI/Government%20Gazette/Pages/Government-Gazette-Repository.aspx</p> <p>Dated 25 October 2024</p>
7	Appointment and Confirmation Letters of Assistant Managers	<p>Appointment Letters for the two Assistant Managers and their confirmation of appointment letter of appointment following the probationary period</p> <p>Appointment letters dated 3 April 2025</p> <p>Confirmation letters dated 28 August 2025</p>

8	Extract from Government Gazette	<p>Government Gazette notice including the external call for the recruitment of a Senior Manager</p> <p>Accessible from https://www.gov.mt/en/Government/DOI/Government%20Gazette/Pages/Government-Gazette-Repository.aspx</p> <p>Dated 1 August 2025</p>
9	Appointment letter of Senior Manager	<p>Appointment letter of the Senior Manager recruited</p> <p>Dated November 2025</p>

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

The Permanent Commission Against Corruption shall have an increased budget for 2024 (compared to the budget for 2021) [...]

The budgets available for the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (hereinafter referred to as “PCAC”) are found in the official Financial Estimates for the Ministry responsible for Justice. These Financial Estimates are adopted and published online annually by the Ministry of Finance. While these documents are referred to as Financial Estimates (hereinafter referred to as FE), they include the approved estimates and actual expenditure for previous years. The FEs provided include the PCAC financial allocation (‘Approved Estimate’) for 2021 and 2024, and the ‘Actual Expenditure’ of the PCAC for those respective years.

The Financial Estimate for 2022 (evidence 2, page 183) identifies the approved estimate for 2021 as €100,000. The Financial Estimate for 2023 (evidence 3, page 386) identifies the actual expenditure for 2021 as €138,153.

The Financial Estimate for 2025 (evidence 4, page 358) identifies the approved estimate for 2024 as €180,000. The Financial Estimate for 2026 (evidence 5, page 360) identifies the actual expenditure for 2024 as €173,197.

Therefore, the total increase in approved funding was €80,000, with an actual expenditure increase of €35,044.

PCAC Budget
Extracted from the official Financial Estimates

Year	Approved Estimate	Relevant Financial Estimate (FE)	Actual Expenditure	Relevant Financial Estimate (FE)
2021	€100,000	FE from 2022 pg.183	€138,153	FE from 2023 pg.386
2024	€180,000	FE from 2025 pg.358	€173,197	FE from 2026 pg.360
Total increase	€80,000		€35,044	

[...] and recruit at least two people

The PCAC launched external calls for the recruitment of Assistant Managers and Senior Managers with the aim of recruiting people. Two Assistant Managers and one Senior Manager were successfully recruited.

Assistant Managers

A call for Assistant Managers was published in the Government Gazette on 25 October 2024 (evidence 6, page 27,112: “Post of Assistant Manager at the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC) within the Ministry for Justice and Reform of the Construction Sector”). Following the recruitment and selection process, two candidates were successfully recruited.

The appointment and confirmation of appointment letters for the two Assistant Managers are attached in evidence 7. The appointment letters, dated 3 April 2025 (evidence 7, pages 1 and 3), were issued by the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry for Justice and Reform of the Construction Sector, for the two Assistant Managers, respectively. On page one and three it states ‘I approved your appointment as Assistant Manager’ (*jien approvajt li inti tinħatar Assistant Manager*) and ‘within the Permanent Commission Against Corruption’ (*fi ħdan il-Kummissjoni Permanenti Kontra l-Korruzzjoni (PCAC)*).

The confirmation of appointment letters, dated 28 August 2025 (evidence 7, pages 2 and 4), were issued for both individuals upon successful completion of their probation period. The letters state the appointments took effect 17 September 2025 and 24 September 2025, six months after commencement of probationary period indicated in pages 1 and 3.

Senior Manager

A call for Senior Manager was published in the Government Gazette on 1 August 2025 (evidence 8, page 10,319: “Post of Senior Manager at the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC) within the Ministry for Justice and Reform of the Construction Sector”). Following the recruitment and selection process, one candidate was successfully recruited.

The appointment letter (evidence 9) dated 11 November 2025 for the Senior Manager, within the PCAC. On page one, it states ‘I approved your appointment as Senior Manager’ (*jien approvajt li inti tinħatar Senior Manager*) and ‘within the Permanent Commission Against Corruption’ (*fi ħdan il-Kummissjoni Permanenti Kontra l-Korruzzjoni (PCAC)*).

According to the evidence provided, Malta has completed the recruitment of three people. Malta has recruited two assistant managers and one senior manager, thus exceeding the goal of Milestone 6.16 by one.

Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **of reforming the Permanent Commission against Corruption (PCAC), including [...] its resources.**

This milestone fulfils the requirement of reforming the PCAC's resources, by increasing its actual expenditure by €35,044, and it has increased its staff with two assistant managers and one senior manager

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactory fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 6.17, Digital registry of information on corruption cases shall be accessible by the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC)

Related Measure: MT-C[C6]-R[R4], Reform the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC)

Qualitative Indicator: Digital registry on corruption cases accessible by the Permanent Commission Against Corruption

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this reform is to allow for a more independent functioning of the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC) with greater resources. The measure consists of reforming the Permanent Commission against Corruption (PCAC), including how the Chairperson and members are appointed, and its operations and resources.

Milestone 6.17 concerns the accessibility by the PCAC to the digital registry containing information on corruption cases.

Milestone 6.17 is one of three milestones of this reform assessed in this payment request, together with milestone 6.16 related to the recruitment of staff and increased budget for the PCAC and milestone 6.18 related to the publication of the standard operating procedure for the PCAC. It follows milestone 6.15 related to the entry into force of legislation granting statutory reinforcement to the PCAC.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	Duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) has been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	PCAC System User Manual	The PCAC System User Guide provides step-by-step instructions how to use the digital registry
3	Signed User Acceptance Tests (UATs) and Certificate of approval	The PCAC User Acceptance Test issued by the Information Management Unit and approved by PCAC, demonstrating that the digital registry of cases held by the PCAC has been successfully created
4	Screenshots of the PCAC System – Digital Registry	Seven screenshots demonstrating the PCAC Digital Registry accessible by the PCAC, proving the existence of the registry

5	PCAC Cases Report	An anonymised report of PCAC cases extracted from the digital registry, confirming that the system is accessible by the PCAC
6	Declaration Form	A declaration form signed by the Chairperson of the PCAC confirming availability and accessibility of the digital registry
7	PCAC Cases Report	An anonymised report of PCAC cases extracted from the digital registry during the physical on-the-spot check conducted 10 December 2025, confirming that the system is accessible by the PCAC

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

Digital registry of information on corruption cases shall be accessible by the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC). Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the measure consists of reforming the Permanent Commission against Corruption (PCAC), including [...] its operations and resources.**

The digital registry of corruption cases is a system developed internally by Malta’s Justice Ministry’s Information Management Unit (hereinafter referred to as “IMU”) to collect information on cases, sittings, evidence, as well as a more structured tracking and faster retrieval of information for the PCAC.

The Commission services conducted an on-the-spot check on 10 December 2025 to verify that the PCAC has access to the digital registry of cases and cross-verified the initial list of four cases extracted from the database (evidence 5). This check was completed successfully, confirming the digital registry of cases is accessible to the Permanent Commission Against Corruption.

Furthermore, section 4. *Cases*, of the PCAC System User Guide (evidence 2, pages 6 to 10) explains step-by-step how PCAC members can perform each of these functions within the system. Each functionality has been user-tested and documented under the “Test Case IDs” from pages 4, 5, and 10 of the User Acceptance Test (evidence 3), which was approved by the business owner of the registry, namely the IMU (evidence 3, page 12). In addition, the system’s functionalities are categorised into three main features that enable the use of the digital registry of cases: (i) adding a new case, (ii) editing of case details, and (iii) viewing the list of cases (evidence 4, pages 2 and 3).

To further confirm that the system is accessible to the PCAC, a declaration form dated and signed by the Chairperson of the PCAC, was provided (evidence 5). In addition, a screenshot from the digital registry demonstrating its accessibility by the PCAC supported the fulfilment of this requirement (evidence 4, page 4).

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 6.18, Publication of an internal Standard Operating Procedure for the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC)

Related Measure: MT-C[C6]-R[R4], Reform the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC)

Qualitative Indicator: Internal Standard Operating Procedure published

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this reform is to allow for a more independent functioning of the Maltese Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC) with greater resources. The measure consists of reforming the Permanent Commission against Corruption (PCAC), including how the Chairperson and members are appointed, and its operations and resources.

Milestone 6.18 concerns the publication of an internal Standard Operating Procedure for the PCAC to provide instructions to help workers carrying out their operations.

Milestone 6.18 is one of three milestones of this reform assessed in this payment request, together with milestone 6.16, related to the recruitment of staff and increase of budget for the PCAC, and milestone 6.17, related to the creation of a digital registry of information on corruption cases that is accessible by the PCAC. It will be followed by milestone 6.15, related to the entry into force of legislation granting statutory reinforcement to the PCAC.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	Duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) has been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	PCAC Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) - ENG	Copy of the PCAC Standard Operating Procedure in English.
3	PCAC Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) - MLT	Copy of the PCAC Standard Operating Procedure in Maltese.
4	Website with link to Standard Operating Procedure	Screenshot of the webpage where the Standard Operating Procedure can be accessed online and hyperlinks to the English and Maltese language versions: (EN) https://pcac.gov.mt/resources/standard-operating-procedures-sop/?lang=en

		(MT) https://pcac.gov.mt/rizorsi/procedu-ri-operattivi-sop/
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3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

Publication of an internal Standard Operating Procedure which shall provide instructions to help workers carrying out operations. Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the measure consists of reforming the Permanent Commission against Corruption (PCAC), including [...] its operations.**

The Standard Operating Procedure (hereinafter referred to as “SOP”) was drafted in both English (evidence 2) and Maltese (evidence 3). The published documents can be found online in the ‘Resources’ section of the dedicated PCAC website (evidence 4). The Commission services accessed the link provided by the authorities on 12 December 2025 to verify the existence of the publicly available SOP. This check was completed successfully, confirming that the internal SOP is published.

Among the purposes of the SOP is the standardisation of the PCAC’s day-to-day procedures. To this end, it provides a “set of step-by-step instructions to assist the administrative staff in carrying out routine operations” (Section 1, *Purpose*, evidence 2, page 3).

Furthermore, the SOP provides instructions to help workers carry out their operations in Sections 13, *Roles and responsibilities of the Administrative Staff*, and 14, *Handling of Correspondence containing sensitive information* (evidence 2, pages 8 to 10). These sections contain information delineating the roles and responsibilities of the administrative staff assisting the Commission, as well as set of step-by-step instructions to carry out their ongoing operations. For instance, the “officers are required to coordinate the drafting of legislative and policy proposals on matters related to the Commission” and the administrative staff “is responsible to plan and lead the implementation of projects, measures and initiatives and to ensure their timely and effective completion”.

The procedure shall include: (i) overview of legal act(s) relating to the PCAC; (ii) functions executed by the PCAC; (iii) definitions relating to corruption and collusion; (iv) overview of legal act(s) and reporting channels relating to whistle-blower protection; (v) monitoring and compliance; (vi) record keeping/register; (vii) responsibilities of the administrative staff; (viii) procedures for investigations; and (ix) information on training and communication.

The published SOP (evidence 2) covers nine elements including:

First, the **overview of legal act(s) relating to the PCAC** is covered under Section 3 of the SOP, *Introduction* of the published SOP (evidence 2, page 3). This section states the creation and purpose of the Commission under the *Permanent Commission Against Corruption Act*. This section contains the legal act establishing the PCAC as well as the purpose entrusted to the PCAC.

Second, the **functions executed by the PCAC** are outlined in Section 4 of the SOP, *Functions executed by the Permanent Commission Against Corruption* (evidence 2, pages 3 to 4). This section describes the

Commission's primary responsibilities, which include investigating the conduct of any public officer or individuals connected to the Maltese administration whose actions *"may be connected or conducive to corrupt practices"* (paragraphs (i) to (iv) of sub-section 4.1).

Third, the **definitions relating to corruption and collusion** are presented in Section 7 of the SOP, *Definitions related to Corruption* (evidence 2, page 6). Paragraph 7.1 outlines the activities that the PCAC investigates under the term of *corruption*, while Paragraph 7.2 provides the definition of *collusion*.

Fourth, the **overview of legal act(s) and reporting channels relating to whistle-blower protection** is provided under Section 8 of the SOP, *Whistle-blower Protection* (evidence 2, pages 6-7). This section outlines Malta's whistle-blower legislation (paragraph 8.1 to 8.2) and describes the existing reporting channels through which individuals may report an act of corruption or illegality (paragraphs 8.2 to 8.6).

Fifth, the **monitoring and compliance** requirement is addressed under Section 19 of the SOP, *Monitoring and Compliance* (evidence 2, page 11). This section explains that periodic revisions to the SOP are to be carried out by the Head of the Administrative Staff in accordance with "any legislative amendments, policy and operational developments" (paragraph 19.2). Furthermore, any amendment to the SOP is recorded, and Members and Staff are informed when the update comes into force (paragraph 19.3). Regarding the compliance, the Head of the Administrative Staff is also responsible for ensuring that the administrative staff adheres to the policies set out in the SOP and the ongoing duties specified in this document (paragraph 19.1).

Sixth, the **record keeping/register** are addressed in Section 15 of the SOP, *Record-keeping and Register*, and in Section 16 of the SOP, *Digital Registry* (evidence 2, page 10). These sections provide detailed information concerning the PCAC digital registry and the required record-keeping procedures (paragraphs 15.1 to 16.3). For example, the "confidential documents are to be scanned, catalogued, indexed and securely stored within the premises of the PCAC". Furthermore, the digital registry of the PCAC "shall contain all the information related to a particular case, including its title, the date when it was reported, its reporter and contact details, case resolutions and any follow-ups required".

Seventh, the **responsibilities of the administrative staff** are outlined in Section 13 of the SOP, *Roles and responsibilities of the Administrative Staff*, and in Section 14 of the SOP, *Handling of Correspondence containing sensitive information* (evidence 2, pages 8 to 10). Paragraphs 13.1 to 13.4 of the SOP lists the duties of the PCAC's officers and administrative staff, while paragraphs 14.1 to 14.10 provide a step-by-step procedure for handling any type of correspondence containing sensitive information. For instance, the "officers are required to coordinate the drafting of legislative and policy proposals on matters related to the Commission" and the administrative staff "is responsible to plan and lead the implementation of projects, measures and initiatives and to ensure their timely and effective completion".

Eighth, the **procedures for investigations** are covered under Section 6, *Investigations* (evidence 2, pages 5 to 6). This section sets out the procedures under which the PCAC carries out its investigation duties. For example, the PCAC conducts investigations either on its own initiative or following reports made to by any person. Moreover, the Commission "has the power to summon witnesses, request files or other documentary evidence as well as to seek Police assistance when it deems fit".

Ninth, the **information on training and communication** is presented in Section 18, *Training and Communication* (evidence 2, page 11). This section contains the relevant information on the training programmes to be developed by the administrative staff, as well as intended audience of these trainings. For instance, the PCAC shall deliver "training programmes to public authorities and public officers on prevention and using best practices to prevent and combat corruption". As regards to communication, paragraph 18.1 explains that the administrative staff are responsible for the

development and coordination of “informative sessions/outreach programmes for the general public” regarding the role of the PCAC.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 6.19a Recruitment of 7 people within the Asset Recovery Bureau

Related Measure: C6.R5 Reform the Asset Recovery Bureau

Quantitative Indicator: Number

Baseline: 0

Target: 7

Time: Q4 2025

1. Context:

The objective of this measure is to increase the powers and capacity of the Asset Recovery Bureau in order to strengthen the role of law enforcement authorities in the fight against money laundering and financial crime. The reform consists of the entry into force of the Proceeds of Crime Act (Act No. V of 2021) and the recruitment of staff in the Asset Recovery Bureau.

Target 6.19a concerns the recruitment of seven people in the Asset Recovery Bureau.

Target 6.19a is the third milestone or target of this reform. It follows the completion of target 6.19 that related to the recruitment of 27 officers in the Asset Recovery Bureau, and the completion of milestone 6.20 related to the entry into force of the Proceeds of Crime Act (Act No. V of 2021), which includes legislative amendments to reinforce the independence of the Asset Recovery Bureau from the government and to require the Bureau to establish relations with equivalent institutions outside Malta. The reform has a final expected date for implementation of 31 December 2025.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary Document	Summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all its constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Extract from the database of Malta's Public Employment Service agency (Jobsplus) as at 06/11/2025	Extract from the database of Malta's Public Employment Service agency (Jobsplus) showing: (i) the people in employment at the Asset Recovery Bureau (name and ID number); (ii) their employment type (full time or part-time); (iii) the starting date of their employment; (iii) their designation.

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

Seven people (full-time equivalent) shall be recruited within the Asset Recovery Bureau.

Furthermore, in line with the measure description, **the reform consists of [...] the recruitment of staff in the Asset Recovery Bureau.**

According to the evidence provided, Malta recruited 9 people (full-time equivalent) within the Asset Recovery Bureau. Indeed, the extract from the database of Malta’s Public Employment Service agency, Jobsplus (evidence 2), confirms that a total of 9 full-time equivalent officers have been recruited within the Asset Recovery Bureau between January and October 2025, thus exceeding the goal of Target 6.19a (the target under assessment) by 2.

Evidence 2 lists the detailed list of recruited employees which includes each officer’s unique identification card number (partly redacted), the employment type, the employment commencement date (referred to in evidence 2 as “Eng. Date”), and the official designation (referred to in evidence 2 as “Designation”).

The table below summarises the recruitments (full-time equivalent) carried out during this timeframe:

Category	Designation (as per evidence 2)	Employment Commencement date (as per evidence 2)
Senior Management	Director	24.03.2025
	Senior Manager (Operations)	05.05.2025
	Senior Manager (Administration & Confiscation)	05.08.2025
Middle Management	Bureau Officer II (Investigations)	02.01.2025
	Bureau Officer II (Investigations)	06.01.2025
	Bureau Officer II (Investigations)	09.04.2025
Administrative and Support Staff	Bureau Officer I (Asset Management)	06.01.2025
	Bureau Officer I (Asset Management)	13.01.2025
	Bureau Officer I (Asset Management)	29.07.2025
	Total	9

Extracts of the database of Malta's Public Employment Service agency (Jobsplus) prove the number of people in employment at any given time. All calls for employment and the recruitments for the Asset Recovery Bureau were made in line with the provisions of the Employment and Training Services Act (Chapter 594 of the Laws of Malta), which stipulates that all employment contracts notifications were sent to the national employment agency “Jobsplus” in accordance with Article 36 of the same Act:

“Any employer, who employs another person whole-time, part-time or otherwise under a definite or indefinite contract or on probation shall notify Jobsplus of such employment by any means which may be established by Jobsplus from time to time.” Moreover, Jobsplus Agency is also notified of any contract termination in accordance with the provisions of Article 40 which states that: *“when a contract of employment is terminated the employer shall, within four days from the date of termination, notify Jobsplus by any means as may be established from time to time, of the date of termination. Jobsplus shall then issue an acknowledgement therefore as soon as possible.”*

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactory fulfilled.

Number and name of the Milestone: 6.23 Independent review of the provision for injured parties (in Act XLI of 2020) to appeal the decision of the Attorney General not to prosecute.

Related Measure: C6.R7 Implementation of the reform concerning the judicial review of decisions not to prosecute and other decisions of the Attorney General. This includes the assignment of the status of injured party at law to specific institutions when reporting a corrupt practice

Qualitative Indicator: Delivery of independent review of the provision for injured parties (in Act XLI of 2020) to appeal the decision of the Attorney General not to prosecute

Time: Q2 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this reform is to ensure that the decisions of the Public Prosecutor not to prosecute are subject to judicial review. This measure consists of the entry into force of legal act(s) giving specific anti-corruption bodies the status of injured party at law, and an independent review and legal changes concerning injured parties to appeal the decision of the Attorney General not to prosecute.

Milestone 6.23 consists of an independent qualitative review that shall assess (i) whether an appeal against non-prosecution by the Attorney General should also be made possible when there is no prosecution within a reasonable time, and (ii) whether the “injured parties” mentioned in Act XLI of 2020 should also be able to appeal against non-prosecution in all cases.

Milestone 6.23 is the second milestone of the reform, and it follows the completion of milestone 6.22 related to the entry into force of legal acts on the judicial review of decisions not to prosecute by the Attorney General. It will be followed by milestone 6.24 related to the entry into force of legal act(s) on the judicial review for injured parties to appeal the decision of the Attorney General not to prosecute.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence.	Short description
1	Summary note	A summary document duly justifying how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Letter of Engagement	Letter of Engagement between Ministry of Justice and FieldFisher commissioning the Independent Review Report Signed 2 April 2025

3	Delivery of Report	Email from Fieldfisher to the Ministry of Justice indicating the delivery of the finalised version of the report Dated 15 December 2025
4	Acceptance of Report	Email from the Ministry of Justice accepting the finalised version of the report Dated 18 December 2025
5	Copy of the Executive Summary	Executive Summary of the Report Dated December 2025
6	Independent Review	Full Independent Review Report Dated December 2025

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

The independent qualitative review of the provision for injured parties (in Act XLI of 2020) to appeal the decision of the Attorney General not to prosecute Furthermore, this “measure consists of [...] an independent review [...] concerning injured parties to appeal the decision of the Attorney General not to prosecute.”

The Ministry for Justice and Reform of the Construction Sector (hereinafter referred to as “MJR”) engaged an independent contractor, the law firm FieldFisher, to carry out an independent review of the provision for injured parties (in Act XLI of 2020) to appeal the decision of the Attorney General not to prosecute. The Letter of Engagement from FieldFisher, acknowledging the agreement to carry out the review, and establishing the standard terms and conditions, was signed by the MJR on 2 April 2025 (evidence 2, page 5). The independence of the contractor is demonstrated in the Scope of Work in the Letter of Engagement (evidence 2, page 1) which states that they will “conduct an Independent Review for the Provision for Injured Parties (in Act XLI of 2020) to Appeal the decision of the Attorney General not to Prosecute”. The Letter of Engagement also includes a Conflict of Interest clause, which states Fieldfisher “will not act where we have a conflict of interests save with your consent in the limited circumstances permitted by the Solicitors Regulation Authority Rules of Professional Conduct” (evidence 2, page 8). The review also states that Fieldfisher has been “instructed by the Ministry for Justice and Reform of the Construction Sector (the “Ministry for Justice”) to prepare that independent assessment” (evidence 7, page 8). Moreover, Fieldfisher is a UK headquartered law firm, independent from the Maltese government.

The report was delivered to the MJR on 15 December 2025 via email (evidence 3). The MJR acknowledged receipt of the finalised report also via email on 18 December 2025 (evidence 4).

The report is a qualitative review assessing (i) whether an appeal against non-prosecution by the Attorney General should also be made possible when there is no prosecution within a reasonable time, and (ii) whether the 'injured parties' mentioned in Act XLI of 2020 should also be able to appeal against non-prosecution in all cases (evidence 7, page 1). In the course of their qualitative research, Fieldfisher visited Malta on four occasions and engaged with the concerned parties to conduct interviews, issue questionnaires, and request relevant material (evidence 7, page 5).

The independent qualitative review shall assess (i) whether an appeal against non-prosecution by the Attorney General should also be made possible when there is no prosecution within a reasonable time [...]

The report recommends that the powers of all four Injured Party Bodies (namely the Permanent Commission Against Corruption (hereinafter referred to as "PCAC"), the Ombudsman, the Commissioner for Standards in Public Life, and the Auditor General) are extended to bring a judicial review against the Office of the Attorney General (hereinafter referred to as "OAG") in the event that it did not make a prosecution decision within a reasonable time. It is the recommendation of the report that this appeal power would only apply to cases the Injured Party Bodies had referred to the OAG, except the PCAC which would be able to appeal all corrupt practise cases where prosecution decisions are not made in a reasonable time (page 13, evidence 6). However, the report also states that this is not a priority due to the apparent absence of any concerns regarding the timeliness of such decision-making. The report suggests that further changes could be part of a wider judicial review reform in the future (page 11, evidence 6).

The report also notes difficulties in assessing what constitutes a reasonable time. Challenges include no existing recording and reporting of cases where a prosecution decision is yet to be made, the complexity of cases requiring varying amounts of time, and because it is often necessary for the OAG to ask the police to continue their investigations before they can reach a decision (page 45, evidence 6). Furthermore, the report notes there has been no noted problems with delays (page 56, evidence 6). The report notes that the OAG may wish to define a 'reasonable time' starting from the point in time that the OAG receives the completed file from the police and considers there is sufficient information to make a determination (page 47, evidence 6). The report also recommends that the OAG is given a legal responsibility to provide confidential information to the Four Injured Bodies in a timely way on all corruption cases, so that they are aware when the OAG makes a decision to open a file or commence a corrupt practise case. This would enable them to monitor progress and determine whether prosecution decisions are being made within a reasonable time (page 55, evidence 6).

[...] and (ii) whether the "injured parties" mentioned in Act XLI of 2020 should also be able to appeal against non-prosecution in all cases

The Council Implementing Decision states "The independent qualitative review shall assess [...] (ii) whether the "injured parties" mentioned in Act XLI of 2020 should also be able to appeal against non-prosecution in all cases." The description of the related measure in the Council Implementing Decision also states that "This measure consists of [...] an independent review and legal changes concerning injured parties to appeal the decision of the Attorney General not to prosecute." The title of the measure states "[...] This includes the assignment of the status of injured party at law to specific institutions when reporting a corrupt practice." The Recovery and Resilience Plan provides "Review the implementation of the reform concerning the judicial review of decisions not to prosecute and other decisions of the Attorney General, including the assignment of the status of injured party at law to specific institutions when reporting a corrupt practice." In light of the purposive interpretation of

this requirement from the Council Implementing Decision, it is interpreted that this requirement refers to the qualitative review of whether the “injured parties” mentioned in Act XLI of 2020 should also be able to appeal against non-prosecution in all corrupt practice cases.

Currently, the four ‘injured parties’ mentioned in Act XLI of 2020 can only appeal the non-prosecution of cases they have referred to the OAG. The review required under the milestone assessed whether the four ‘injured parties’ should have their powers expanded to appeal all OAG decisions not to prosecute corrupt practices cases, regardless of whether the injured party had referred it to the OAG or not. As such, the qualitative review assessed whether the “injured parties” mentioned in Act XLI of 2020 should also be able to appeal against non-prosecution in all corrupt practice cases. On this basis, it is considered that this constitutive element of the milestone is satisfactorily fulfilled.

The report does not recommend extending the rights of all of the injured parties mentioned in Act XLI of 2020, Article 5(4)(b) (the PCAC, the Ombudsman, the Commissioner for Standards in Public Life, and the Auditor General) to enable them to appeal against non-prosecution in all corrupt practice cases. The report suggests that if the scope of the law is extended in this way it should only be for the PCAC (page 56, evidence 6). The three other Injured Party Bodies retain the right to appeal against non-prosecution of cases they have referred to the OAG.

The report finds that since the legislation was introduced in 2020, the OAG has prosecuted all cases involving corrupt practices, with no decisions not to prosecute such cases. Therefore, the Injured Party Bodies have had no reason to use their appeal powers under Act XLI (page 11, evidence 6). Moreover, the report finds that only the PCAC has the remit to investigate the crimes of corrupt practices, and can both make referrals to the OAG and receive reports of concern from the public. However, the report notes that were the law to be extended, further resourcing and expertise may be required (page 57, evidence 6).

The report finds that the three other Injured Party Bodies are unlikely to refer corrupt practice to the Attorney General other than in exceptional circumstances (page 40, evidence 6). This is because they are ill-fitted to taking on this responsibility, with the monitoring and receiving of complaints of non-prosecution likely to be a drain on resources and arguably a departure from their core remit (page 46, evidence 6).

The report also recommends that the OAG be given a legal responsibility to provide confidential information to the four Injured Party Bodies in a timely way on all corrupt practise cases, so that they are aware when a decision is taken not to prosecute a corrupt practice case (page 55, evidence 6).

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactory fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 7.1, New requirements for renewable energy generation in residential and non-residential buildings

Related Measure: MT-C[7]-R[1]-M[7.1], Review of permit-granting procedures for renewable energy projects and of requirements for buildings

Qualitative Indicator: Provision in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force

Time: Q2 2024

1. Context:

This reform aims at increasing the share of renewables in Malta's energy mix.

Milestone 7.1 concerns the entry into force of legal act(s) that shall require compliance with the updated Technical Document F introducing new requirements for renewable energy generation in residential and non-residential buildings.

Milestone 7.1 is the first step of the implementation of the reform. It will be followed by milestone 7.3, related to entry into force of legal act(s) that shall set shortened timelines for permit-granting procedures of renewable energy installations on greenhouses and of renewable energy projects.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	This document duly justifies how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) has been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Subsidiary legislation 623.01 , of 13 February 2018, on Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations, as approved by Legal Notice 47 of 2018 and amended by Legal Notices 134 of 2020, 409 of 2021, 231 of 2022 and 305 of 2023.	Subsidiary legislation containing the Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations, where compliance with Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1 and Technical Document F (2023) – Part 2 is required.
3	Legal Notice 305 of 2023 , of 22 December (published in the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21 169 of 22 December 2023), amending Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations.	This Legal Notice amended Subsidiary legislation 623.01 on Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations and introduced the obligation to comply with an updated Technical Document F, the 'Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1' and the 'Technical Document F (2023) – Part 2'.
4	Legal Notice 47 of 2018 , of 13 February (published in the Government Gazette of Malta	This Legal Notice approved the Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations.

	No. 19 947 of 13 February 2018), approving the Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations.	
5	<p>Technical Document F of 2016 - Part 1, from the Building and Construction Authority, containing minimum energy performance requirements for buildings in Malta.</p> <p>Online available at: https://bca.gov.mt/guidance-documents/</p> <p>The Commission services verified that the link was operational on the 18th of November 2025.</p>	<p>This document contains minimum energy performance requirements for buildings in Malta. Superseded after the entry into force of Legal Notice 305 of 2023, which introduced the obligation of compliance with an updated Technical Document F (including 'Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1' and 'Technical Document F (2023) – Part 2') as of the 1st of July 2024.</p>
6	<p>Technical Document F of 2016 - Part 2, from the Building and Construction Authority, containing minimum energy performance requirements for buildings services in Malta.</p> <p>Online available at: https://bca.gov.mt/guidance-documents/</p> <p>The Commission services verified that the link was operational on the 18th of November 2025.</p>	<p>This document contains minimum energy performance requirements for buildings services in Malta. Superseded after the entry into force of Legal Notice 305 of 2023, which introduced the obligation of compliance with an updated Technical Document F (including 'Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1' and 'Technical Document F (2023) – Part 2') as of the 1st of July 2024.</p>
7	<p>Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1, from the Building and Construction Authority, containing minimum energy performance and building envelope requirements for dwellings.</p> <p>Online available at: https://bca.gov.mt/guidance-documents/</p>	<p>This document contains minimum energy performance and building envelope requirements for dwellings, including new requirements for renewable energy generation. Legal Notice 305 of 2023 introduced an obligation of compliance with this document as of the 1st of July of 2024.</p>

	The Commission services verified that the link was operational on the 18 th of November 2025.	
8	<p>Technical Document F (2023) – Part 2, from the Building and Construction Authority, containing minimum energy performance and building envelope requirements for non-dwellings.</p> <p>Online available at: https://bca.gov.mt/guidance-documents/</p> <p>The Commission services verified that the link was operational on the 18th of November 2025.</p>	This document contains minimum energy performance and building envelope requirements for non-dwellings, including new requirements for renewable energy generation. Legal Notice 305 of 2023 introduced an obligation of compliance with this document as of the 1st of July of 2024.
9	Constitution of Malta , of 21 September 1964	Article 72 of the Constitution of Malta contains a provision on the general rule of entry into force of legal acts in Malta.
10	Interpretation Act (Chapter 249 of the Laws of Malta) , of 4 February 1975	Articles 5 and 16 of this legal act contain provisions on the general rule of entry into force and publication of legal acts in Malta.

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

Entry into force of legal act(s) that shall require compliance with the updated Technical Document F [...]

The Technical Document F (2023) (evidence 7 and 8) is a document split in different parts which, according to Regulation 2(2) of Subsidiary Legislation 623.01 on the energy performance of buildings (evidence 2) which was published and entered into force on 13 February 2018, includes the minimum energy performance requirements and technical building systems in force (hereinafter referred to as “the Subsidiary Legislation 623.01”). The Subsidiary Legislation 623.01 (evidence 2) further specifies that Technical Document F may be amended from time to time and that it should be available on the Building and Construction Authority’s website as provided by Regulation 2(2) of the Subsidiary Legislation 623.01 (evidence 2). Compliance with Technical Document F was required by Subsidiary

Legislation 623.01 (evidence 2) in its original version as approved by Legal Notice 47 of 2018 (evidence 4), according to which the design of buildings should be compliant with the Technical Document F (Regulation 5(1) of Legal Notice 47 of 2018 – evidence 4).

Legal Notice 305 of 2023 of 22 December amending Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations (hereinafter referred to as “Legal Notice 305 of 2023) (evidence 3) amended Regulation 5(1) of Subsidiary Legislation 623.01 (evidence 2) and introduced the requirement to comply with an updated ‘Technical Document F (2023)’ in Regulation 3 of the Legal Notice 305 of 2023 (evidence 3). Legal Notice 305 of 2023 (evidence 3) entered into force on the day of its publication, in accordance with Article 72 of the Constitution of Malta (Chapter 0 of the Laws of Malta) (evidence 9) and Articles 5 and 16 of the Interpretation Act (Chapter 249 of the Laws of Malta) (evidence 10). According to Regulation 1(3) of Legal Notice 305 of 2023 (evidence 3), the specific Regulation 3 of the same Legal Notice introducing the obligation of compliance with the new ‘Technical Document F (2023)’ (both Parts 1 and 2 – evidence 7 and 8) in the amended Subsidiary Legislation 623.01 (evidence 2) entered into force on the 1st of July of 2024.

According to Regulation 3 of Legal Notice 305 of 2023 (evidence 3), Regulation 5(1) of Subsidiary Legislation 623.01 (evidence 2) was amended to reflect that the design of buildings, their construction, renovation and technical systems should be compliant with ‘Technical Document F (2023)’ and its different parts (including Part 1 on minimum energy performance and building envelope requirements for dwellings and Part 2 on the same requirements but for non-dwellings – these are Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1 and Technical Document F (2023) – Part 2 – evidence 7 and 8 respectively).

[...] introducing new requirements for renewable energy generation in residential and non-residential buildings. Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the reform consists of the introduction of new requirements for renewable energy generation in buildings.**

Legal Notice 305 of 2023 (evidence 3) amended Subsidiary Legislation 623.01 (evidence 2) to introduce the obligation of compliance with the updated Technical Document F (the ‘Technical Document F (2023)’ – both Parts 1 and 2 – evidence 7 and 8 respectively). The updated ‘Technical Document F (2023)’ introduced new requirements for renewable energy generation in residential (Part 1 – evidence 7) and non-residential (Part 2 – evidence 8) buildings, which did not exist in the previous version of Technical Document F (Technical Document F of 2016 – Part 1 and Technical Document F of 2016 – Part 2 – evidence 5 and 6 respectively).

The new requirements for renewable energy generation in residential buildings were introduced by Part 1 of Technical Document F (2023) (evidence 7), related to minimum energy performance and building envelope requirements for dwellings (Regulation 5(1) of Subsidiary Legislation 623.01 and Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1), while the new requirements for renewable energy generation in non-residential buildings were introduced by Part 2 of Technical Document F (2023) (evidence 8), related to minimum energy performance and building envelope requirements for non-dwellings (Regulation 5(1) of Subsidiary Legislation 623.01 and Technical Document F (2023) – Part 2).

Regarding residential buildings, Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1 (evidence 7) introduced, among others:

- a) An obligation to integrate a minimum share of renewable energy generation from photovoltaic systems in new and renovated buildings including, for instance, through on site installed

renewable energy systems forming part of the building or its complex (Point 4.1.1. of Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1);

- b) Minimum requirements per type of dwelling on the specific share required of energy generated from photovoltaic systems or other renewable energy sources for the provision of electricity (Table 6 of Point 4.1.1 of Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1);
- c) Minimum requirements per type of dwelling on the specific share of energy demanded by annual domestic hot water that should come from renewable energy sources (including by using heat pumps or solar water heaters) (Point 4.2.1 of Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1);
- d) An obligation to compensate for the impossibility of installing heat pumps or solar water heaters (when this exists, for instance, due to building height limitations) by achieving the same share of renewable energy through the inclusion of photovoltaics (Point 4.2.2, line ii) of Technical Document F (2023) – Part 1).

Regarding non-residential buildings, Technical Document F (2023) – Part 2 (evidence 8) introduced, among others:

- a) An obligation to integrate in the design of new and renovated buildings on-site or nearby renewable energy systems that are exclusively related to the building in question for its entire lifetime, and that should generate a share of its total primary energy (Point 4.1.1 of Technical Document F (2023) – Part 2);
- b) Minimum requirements per type of building (for instance, hotels, offices or schools) on the specific share required for on-site generation of renewable energy (Table 5 of Point 4.1.1 of Technical Document F (2023) – Part 2).

As aforementioned, none of these requirements existed in the previous Technical Document F (Technical Document F of 2016 - Part 1 and Technical Document F of 2016 - Part 2 – evidence 5 and 6 respectively).

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 7.3, Entry into force of legal act(s) setting shortened timelines for permit-granting procedures of renewable energy installations on greenhouses and renewable energy projects

Related Measure: MT-C[7]-R[1], Review of permit-granting procedures for renewable energy projects and of requirements for buildings

Qualitative Indicator: Provision in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

The objective of this reform is to increase the share of renewables in Malta’s energy mix. The reform consists of the entry into force of legal act(s) setting shortened timelines for permit-granting procedures for renewable energy projects and introduction of new requirements for renewable energy generation in buildings.

Milestone 7.3 concerns the entry into force of legal act(s) setting shortened timelines for permit-granting procedures of (i) renewable energy installations on greenhouses and (ii) renewable energy projects.

Milestone 7.3 is the second and last milestone of the reform. It follows the completion of milestone 7.1, also assessed in this payment request, related to the entry into force of legal act(s) that shall require compliance with the updated Technical Document F, introducing new requirements for renewable energy generation in residential and non-residential buildings.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	This document duly justifies how the milestone (including all the constitutive elements) has been satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Copy of the Development Planning Act (Chapter 552 of the Laws of Malta), published in the Government Gazette of Malta No. 19,552 on 1 April 2016 and entered into force on 4 April 2016 in accordance with Legal Notice 106 of 2016. It was subsequently amended by Legal Notice 109 of 2020 and by Acts No. XXXVI of 2020, No. XXI of 2022, and No. XVI of 2023.	Principal legislation containing provisions for sustainable planning and management of development, and establishment of the Planning Authority.

3	Copy of the Subsidiary legislation 552.13, “Development Planning (Procedure for Applications and their Determination) Regulations,” published in the Government Gazette of Malta No. 19,570 on 9 May 2016 and entered into force on the same day, in accordance with Legal Notice 162 of 2016. It was subsequently amended by Legal Notice 454 of 2020 and Legal Notice 162 of 2023.	Subsidiary legislation containing the Development Planning (Procedure for Applications and their Determination) Regulations.
4	Copy of the Legal Notice 1 of 2026 “Development Planning (Procedure for Applications and their Determination) Amendment Regulations, 2026,” which entered into force on 9 January 2026, as evidenced by the publication in the Supplement to the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,569.	Amendment to Subsidiary Legislation 552.13 “Development Planning (Procedure for Applications and their Determination) Regulations,” through amending Schedule 2, which identifies the categories of projects eligible for the Summary Procedure Hyperlink to where the Legal Notice can be found: https://legislation.mt/eli/ln/2026/1/eng This is published in the Supplement to the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,569 and notified as published in Government Gazette No. 21,570 (see evidence 5).
5	Copy of the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21, 570 of 13 January 2026.	Where it is notified that Legal Notice 1 of 2026 “Development Planning (Procedure for Applications and their Determination) Amendment Regulations, 2026” was published in the Supplement to the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,569 of 9 January 2026. Hyperlink to where the relevant Government Gazette of Malta edition can be found: https://www.gov.mt/en/Government/DOI/Government%20Gazette/Documents/2026/01/Government%20Gazette%20-%2013th%20January.pdf
6	Constitution of Malta, of 21 September 1964.	Article 72 of the Constitution of Malta contains a provision on the general rule of entry into force of legal acts in Malta.
7	Interpretation Act (Chapter 249 of the Laws of Malta), of 4 February 1975.	Articles 5 and 16 of this Act contain provisions on the general rule of entry into force and publication of legal acts in Malta.

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the milestone.

Provision in the legal act(s) indicating the entry into force.

Legal Notice 1 of 2026 “Development Planning (Procedure for Applications and their Determination) Amendment Regulations, 2026” (hereinafter referred to as “Legal Notice 1 of 2026”) (evidence 4) amending Subsidiary Legislation 552.13 “Development Planning (Procedure for Applications and their Determination) Regulations” (hereinafter referred to as “Subsidiary Legislation 552.13”) (evidence 3) was published in the Supplement to the Government Gazette of Malta No. 21,569 on 9 January 2026. It entered into force on the date of its publication in accordance with the provisions of Article 72 of the Constitution of Malta (Chapter 0 of the Laws of Malta) (evidence 6) and Articles 5 and 16 of the Interpretation Act (Chapter 249 of the Laws of Malta) (evidence 7), which provide that the entry into force of a legal act takes place at the moment of the publication in the Government Gazette of Malta if not stipulated otherwise. It was notified as published in a subsequent Government Gazette of Malta edition, notably No. 21,570 on 13 January 2026 (pages 228 to 229 of evidence 5).

The legal act(s) shall set shortened timelines for permit-granting procedures of (i) renewable energy installations on greenhouses and (ii) renewable energy projects.

Furthermore, in line with the description of the measure, **the reform consists of the entry into force of legal act(s) setting shortened timelines for permit-granting procedures for renewable energy projects [...].**

Subsidiary Legislation 552.13 (evidence 3) includes provisions establishing the standard and summary procedures applicable to the submission and issuance of development permission applications, in accordance with Article 85(2) sub-paragraph (b) of the Development Planning Act (Chapter 552 of the Laws of Malta) (hereinafter referred to as the “Act”) (evidence 2). The Act was published in the Government Gazette of Malta No. 19,552 on 1 April 2016 and entered into force on 4 April 2016 in accordance with Legal Notice 106 of 2016 and was subsequently amended by Legal Notice 109 of 2020 and by Acts No. XXXVI of 2020, No. XXI of 2022, and No. XVI of 2023.

Legal Notice 1 of 2026 (evidence 4) amended Schedule 2 to Subsidiary Legislation 552.13 (pages 24 to 27 of evidence 3), which lists categories of developments that may be processed under the summary procedure. These include, among others, developments related to existing buildings and development within the curtilage of buildings (Type 1), minor infrastructure development (Type 3), and temporary use of land (Type 6). In accordance with Article 3 of Legal Notice 1 of 2026 (evidence 4), the amendment concerns the introduction of Type 13 Developments as a new item under Schedule 2. The same article specifies that Type 13 Developments relate to “renewable energy projects or solely to renewable energy installations on legally established greenhouses.” By adding renewable energy projects and renewable energy installations on greenhouses as Type 13 Developments under Schedule 2, Legal Notice 1 of 2026 brings such projects within the scope of the summary procedure provided for under Subsidiary Legislation 552.13.

The procedural timeline for development permission applications that fall outside Schedule 2 and are therefore ineligible for a summary procedure is established by the following provisions of Subsidiary Legislation 552.13 (evidence 3). Article 13(1) (evidence 3) provides that an application will be discussed by the Planning Board, within 100 calendar days from its validation date. The Planning Board, together with the Executive Council, constitutes the Planning Authority (hereinafter referred to as “Authority”) as established under Article 5 of the Act (evidence 2). In line with Article 38(1)(a) and Article 64 of the

Act (evidence 2), the Authority is responsible for the receipt, processing, and issuance of development permissions. The validation date is defined, pursuant to Article 4(1) (evidence 3), as the date on which the Authority determines that an application is valid and complies with all requirements set out in Article 4(2) (evidence 3). Once validated, the application is then according to Article 4(1) published on the website of the Department of Information (hereinafter referred to as “Department”). In accordance with Article 13(4) sub-paragraph (a) (evidence 3), the Planning Board decides and determines an application at its first sitting, and, pursuant to Article 13(7) (evidence 3), communicates its decision to the applicant within 15 calendar days of the date of that decision. Article 6(6) (evidence 3) further provides that a notice indicating whether an application has been approved or refused is published on the website of the Department, and that the “validity of the permit shall run from the publication of the decision.”

The procedural timeline for development permission applications that fall under Schedule 2 and are therefore eligible for a summary procedure is established by the following provisions of Subsidiary Legislation 522.13 (evidence 3). According to Article 18(1) (evidence 3), the Executive Chairperson of the Executive Council prepares a recommendation on whether the application satisfies all the requirements from Subsidiary Legislation 522.13 and that the development is indeed included in Schedule 2. The application is then referred to the Chairperson of the Planning Board, who must decide, pursuant to Article 18(3) (evidence 3), not later than six weeks (42 calendar days) from the publication of the application. According to Article 18(6) (evidence 3) the Chairperson of the Planning Board issues the development permission within five days, with the decision being published on the website of the Department not later than 15 calendar days from the date of such decision. The shortened timeline applicable to summary procedure applications is further reinforced by Article 21(1) sub-paragraph (b) (evidence 3), which provides that where the decision of the Chairperson of the Planning Board exceeds 42 working days (approximately 59 calendar days) from the publication of the application, the applicant may request a refund of the fees paid to the Authority during this procedure.

With the introduction of Type 13 developments, which encompass renewable energy projects or installations on legally established greenhouses, into Schedule 2 of Subsidiary Legislation 522.13 through Legal Notice 1 of 2026, the procedural timeline for obtaining development permissions for these projects has been shortened from 100 to 42 calendar days.

The assessment of the milestone for the purposes of payments from the Recovery and Resilience Facility does not prejudice the evaluation by the Commission of the transposition of Directive 2023/2413 and Directive 2014/52 by Malta.

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled

Number and name of the Milestone: 7.4, Signature of contracts for investments in distribution centres and cables

Related Measure: MT-C[7]-I[1], Investments in distribution centres and cables

Qualitative Indicator: Signature of contracts for investments in distribution centres and cables

Time: Q4 2024

1. Context:

This investment aims at addressing internal electricity transmission and distribution bottlenecks. The measure consists of investments in distribution centres and cables.

Milestone 7.4 concerns the signature of contracts for investments in distribution centres and cables.

Milestone 7.4 is the first step of the implementation of the investment. It will be followed by milestone 7.6, related to the works completed and the installation or commissioning of equipment for distribution centres and of cables.

2. Evidence provided:

	Name of the evidence	Short description
1	Summary document	Duly justifying how the milestone (including all its constitutive elements) was satisfactorily fulfilled.
2	Contract for the installation or commissioning of one 132kV cable circuit between Maghtab and Mosta, signed on 1 October 2024, between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and Bonnici Bros Services Ltd (the contractor).	Contract for the installation or commissioning of one 132kV cable circuit between Maghtab and Mosta distribution centres.
3	Contract for the construction works and supply of equipment for the Naxxar distribution centre, signed on 20 January 2025, between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and AG Installations (contractor).	Contract for the construction works and supply of equipment for the Naxxar distribution centre.
4	Contract for the construction works and supply of equipment for the Siggiewi distribution centre, signed on 20 January 2025, between Enemalta	Contract for the construction works and supply of equipment for the Siggiewi distribution centre.

	pic (contracting authority) and AG Installations (contractor).	
5	Contract for civil works and supply of equipment for the Hospital distribution centre, signed on 20 December 2024 and 14 January 2025, between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and Bonnici Bros Services Ltd (contractor).	Contract for the upgrade of the Hospital distribution centre, with reference number TD/T/3859/2024.
6	Contract for civil works and supply of equipment for the Mosta distribution centre, signed on 20 December 2024 and 18 December 2024, between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and Bonnici Bros Services Ltd (contractor).	Contract for the supply and commissioning and alterations to the Mosta distribution centre, with reference number TD/T/3832/2024.
7	Specifications of the contract for civil works and supply of equipment for the Hospital distribution centre, with reference TD/T/3859/2024.	Technical specifications for the Hospital distribution centre, including description and further contractual specifications about the equipment that will be supplied and civil works that will be carried out. The specifications are, according to the contract (evidence 5), an integral part of it.
8	Specifications of the contract for civil works and supply of equipment for the Mosta distribution centre, with reference TD/T/3832/2024.	Technical specifications for the Mosta distribution centre, including description and further contractual specifications about the equipment that will be supplied and civil works that will be carried out. The specifications are, according to the contract (evidence 6), an integral part of it.
9	Contract for installation of cables, signed on the 20 th of November 2024 and 19 th of December 2024, between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and VeC Contractors Ltd (contractor), with reference TD/T/3850/2024.	Contract for trenching and cable laying works in various localities.
10	Bill of quantities of the contract for installation of cables, with reference TD/T/3850/2024. Online available with the tender documents and specifications at:	The bill of quantities is an excel file indicating the different types of works and equipment requested by the contracting authority, and for which the contractor indicates a budget offer. The bill of quantities is published together with the tender documents and is an integral part of the contract, accordingly to Article 3(1)(f) of the Special Conditions of the contract

	https://www.etenders.gov.mt/epps/cf/t/listContractDocuments.do?resourceId=11120911 Commission services verified that the link was operational on 21 November 2025.	(evidence 11), which are in turn part of the contract, as per Point 4(b) of the contract (evidence 9).
11	Special conditions and specifications of the contract for installation of cables, with reference TD/T/3850/2024.	Special conditions and specifications of the contract for trenching and cable laying works in various localities with reference TD/T/3850/2024.

3. Analysis:

The justification and substantiating evidence provided by the Maltese authorities cover all constitutive elements of the target.

Signature of contracts for investments in distribution centres and cables.

As described below for each sub-requirement of the milestone, contracts were signed for investments in distribution centres and cables, namely for the installation or commissioning of a 132kV distribution feeder or cable circuit, for the construction works and supply of equipment for two distribution centres, for civil works and supply of equipment for the Hospital and Mosta distribution centres and for more than 15km of cables.

Contracts shall be signed for the following:

1) installation or commissioning of a 132kV distributing feeder line or cable circuit

The contract for the supply, installation and commissioning of one 132kV cable circuit (point 2 of evidence 2) was signed on the 1st of October of 2024, between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and Bonnici Bros Services Ltd (the contractor) (evidence 2).

2) construction works and supply of equipment for two distribution centres

Two contracts were signed for construction works and supply of equipment for two distribution centres:

- A first contract was signed on 20 January 2025 between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and AG Installations (contractor) (evidence 3). The subject of this contract is the construction and supply of equipment for the Naxxar distribution centre (point 2 of evidence 3).

- A second contract was signed on 20 January 2025 between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and AG Installations (contractor) (evidence 4). The subject of this contract is the construction and supply of equipment for the Siggiewi distribution centre (point 2 of evidence 4).

3) civil works and supply of equipment for the Hospital and Mosta distribution centres

Two contracts were signed for civil works and supply of equipment, one for the Hospital distribution centre and the other for the Mosta distribution centre.

a) Hospital distribution centre:

The contract for the Hospital distribution centre was signed on 14 January 2025 between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and Bonnici Bros Services Ltd (contractor) (evidence 5). The subject of the contract is the upgrade of the Hospital distribution centre (point 2 of evidence 5).

The contract also includes the technical specifications which, according to the contract, are an integral part of it (point 4 of evidence 5). The contract includes in part 1 of the technical specifications information on the equipment that is to be supplied for the Mosta distribution centre, including, for instance, power transformers (Page 58 and following of evidence 7) and 33kV and 11kV switchgear (Page 79 and following of evidence 7). The contract also includes in part 2 of the technical specifications information on the civil works to be carried out, which include, among others, excavation and foundation works, works in the drainage of the distribution centre and all internal and external works (Page 156 and following of evidence 7).

b) Mosta distribution centre:

The contract for the Mosta distribution centre was signed on 14 January 2025 between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and Bonnici Bros Services Ltd (contractor) (evidence 6). The subject of the contract is the supply, delivery and commissioning of switchgear equipment, as well as alteration works to the switchgear room at the Mosta distribution centre (point 2 of evidence 6).

The contract also includes the technical specifications, which according to the contract are an integral part of it (point 4 of evidence 6). The contract includes in part 1 of the technical specifications information on the equipment that is to be supplied to the Mosta distribution centre, including, for instance, 33kV switchgear (Page 50 and following of evidence 8) and cables (Page 61 of evidence 8). The contract also includes, in part 2 of the technical specifications, information on the civil works to be carried out, which include, among others, demolition works, civil works related to installation of earthing system or rendering and painting works (Page 86 and following of evidence 8).

4) 15km of cables

One contract was signed for the trenching and cable laying works in various localities on 19 December 2024 between Enemalta pic (contracting authority) and VeC Contractors Ltd (contractor) (evidence 9). This contract covers, among others, the installation of the following cables and respective lengths, in three different localities:

a) From the new distribution centre in the Hospital to Msida and Birkirkara:

- 9 917.60 metres of cable less than or equal to 35mm in diameter (point I.10.a of tab 2 of evidence 10);
- 9 917.60 metres of cable greater than 35mm in diameter but less than or equal to 80mm diameter (point I.10.b of tab 2 of evidence 10).

b) Marsaskala:

- 5 439.50 metres of cable greater than 35mm in diameter but less than or equal to 80mm diameter (point I.10.b of tab 3 of evidence 10);
- 1 037.30 metres of cable greater than 35mm in diameter but less than or equal to 80mm diameter (point I.11.b of tab 3 of evidence 10).

c) From Mgarr ta' Merjnu to Mgarr Palma:

- 2 024 metres of cable of cable less than or equal to 35mm diameter (point I.10.a of tab 4 of evidence 10);
- 2 024 metres of cable greater than 35mm in diameter but less than or equal to 80mm diameter (point I.10.b of tab 4 of evidence 10).

This information is included in the Bill of Quantities (evidence 10). According to Article 3(1)(f) of the special conditions of the contract (which are part of the contract as per Point 4(b) of evidence 9), the bill of quantities are an integral part of the contract (page 12 of evidence 11).

According to the evidence provided, Malta completed the signature of contracts for 30 360 metres of cables (30.36 kilometres), thus exceeding the goal of milestone 7.4 by 15 360 metres (15.36 kilometres).

4. Commission Preliminary Assessment: Satisfactorily fulfilled