

# Citizens Guide to the Budget 2024-2025

PREPARED BY

MINISTRY OF FINANCE & ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT

**PRESENTED** 

**APRIL 2024** 



### Welcome Remarks

Mrs. Lindorna Sweeney Hon. Financial Secretary



It is my pleasure to present this Citizen's Guide to the 2024-2025 Budget of the Government of Montserrat.

This document seeks to equip residents with summarised information regarding Montserrat's national budget, its preparation process, the sources and uses of funds, and the investment priorities in the year ahead. It is hoped that all residents and stakeholders will take the time to read this guide to be informed about GoM's plans for this fiscal year.

The information presented within this guide promotes transparency and accountability on behalf of the Ministry of Finance, Government of Montserrat (GoM). You will find information about how we collect and allocate public funds on your behalf, to deliver our services, and implement our major investments, capital projects and transformation initiatives.

#### BUDGET THEMES 2024-2025

TRANSFORM THE ECONOMY

PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT

EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITIES

## Economic Context

Montserrat's population is

4386

3.1% Global growth forecast

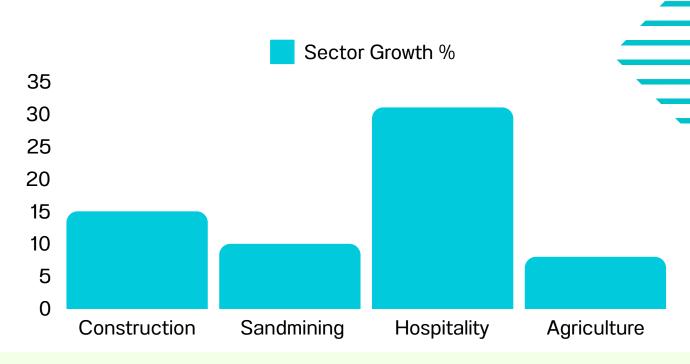
Montserrat's economic growth forecast is strong and exceed's the IMF's estimate for global growth.

5%

Montserrat's growth forecast

10.9% decrease in population since 2011





## Budget at a Glance

**TOTAL BUDGET** 

\$236.3m

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

\$155.7m

Budget for Recurrent Operations \$80.6m

Budget for Capital Investment

\$55m

Local revenues (amount of monies collected)



### Income Statements





\$155,702,800

**Total Revenue** 

\$55,537,800

Locally Collected Revenue

\$100,165,000

Budgetary Aid / Grant Contributions

#### LOCAL REVENUE BREAKDOWN

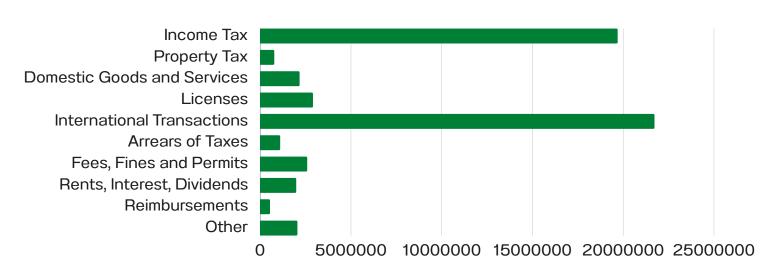
\$50,954,000

Taxes, licenses, fees, fines and permits

2,523,800

Rents, Interest, Dividends and Reimbursements \$2,051,000

Other Revenue

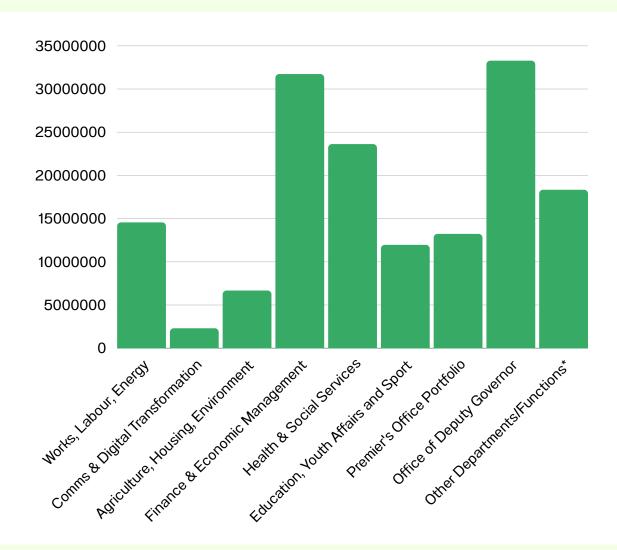


**HOW IS THE MONEY SPENT?** 

### Recurrent Expenditure by Area



3.3% increase from 2023-24



#### NOTE

\*Other Departments & Functions include:

Cabinet Secretariat, Police Service, Legal, Courts, Legislature, Audit Office, Public Prosecution, and the Financial Intelligence Unit

#### **HOW IS THE MONEY SPENT?**

## Recurrent New Spend Priorities

Each year, the Government develops and proposes new spend priorities, and works with our funding partners to secure funding for their execution. For recurrent funding initiatives, below is a summary of some of the new spend priorities for 2024-2025.



Healthcare Transformation

\$2m



Port Landside Development

\$2m



Community
Sports Facilities

\$1m



Agricultural Product Expansion

\$1.5m



Electric Vehicle Charging Points

\$42,000



Safeguarding Protection

\$0.5m



Government Maintenance

\$2m



Social Security Fund

Additional \$1m



Capacity Development

\$0.5m

#### WHAT IS DIFFERENT?

## Major Tax & Fiscal Changes

This year, the budget includes a number of significant tax changes and fiscal interventions, as follows:



The tax-free personal threshold is increasing from \$15,000 - \$18,000, reducing the amount of PAYE tax for earners.

\$3,000 additional tax free allowance



Above that threshold, income tax bands are being simplified, and reduced, cutting taxes for all earners.

For example, a worker earning \$27,660 will now pay approximately \$700 less in taxation.

3%

Public Service Salaries will increase by a further 3%, in addition to the 3% increase in 2023-2024.

Supporting cost of living challenges



The royalty revenue structure for sand mining is being actively reviewed to create a fair-market environment

Increasing revenue from a key national asset

#### TRANSFORMING THE ECONOMY

### Capital Investments



Major investments in capital infrastructure and transformational projects are critical to Montserrat's national development and future economic growth. Sources of funds include the UK FCDO's CIPREG Programme, the Overseas Territories Essential Equipment Programme; the UKCIF; the BNTF Programme; EU Programmes, RESEMBID and GO. Some key investments planned for 2024–2025 are highlighted below:



New National Hospital

Main construction starting this year



Completion of Port Project

Already in construction



Parliament Building Design

Completion of design phase



MSS Rehabilitation Project

All buildings to be commissioned and handed over.



Salem Community Centre Rehab

Will be completed this year



Geothermal and Energy Projects

Geothermal infrastructure, energy efficiency



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