Fourth Session of the 12th Parliament

FINANCIAL SCRUTINY UNIT
Office of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

HEAD 23: OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL & MINISTRY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

ALLOCATION: $466,130,000.00

A Summary of the Department’s Projects Expenditure, Divisions and Projects.

Financial Scrutiny Unit,
Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago.
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About this Guide

This guide provides a summary of expenditure for the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs for the period 2018-2024. It provides the Members of Parliament and their stakeholders with an overview of the Ministry’s responsibilities. The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate all of the information contained within the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs, and provide readers with an analysis of same. This guide is based primarily on:

- the Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure, 2024;
- the Draft Estimates of Development Programme, 2024;
- the Public Sector Investment Programme, 2024; and
- the Auditor General’s Report on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the fiscal year 2022.
Ministerial Overview

The Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs’ Commitment

The Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs remains committed to the holistic development of Trinidad and Tobago through the promotion of the rule of law at all levels of society. The AGLA will carry out the responsibilities as outlined in the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago and aligned with the Government’s Strategic Plan – Vision 2030 to ensure the developmental pillars of a modern legal and regulatory framework are implemented and made effective.

The protection of individual freedoms and property rights can have the greatest impact on national development. The Attorney General’s Legislative Agenda advocates for those rights and tables on Parliament’s floor the ideals and performance measures required in the law and justice sector to effect change at the national, regional and international level.

The AGLA resolves to create public value through the development of specialist legal services in the areas of law that are of importance to the State and simultaneously provide to You, the stakeholder, a safe and enabling environment delivered with respect, equity and integrity so as to stimulate increased productivity and greater confidence in the rule of law and in the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs.

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Responsibilities

The Responsibilities of the Office are:

- Appointment to Quasi-Judicial Bodies
- Construction of Court facilities for the Judiciary
- Law Reform
- Legislative Agenda
- Office of the Chief State Solicitor
  - Administrator General
  - Conveyancing
  - Custodian of Enemy Property
  - Government Contracts
  - Legal Service
  - Provisional Liquidator
  - Provisional Receiver
  - Public Trustee/Official Receiver
- Office of the Solicitor General
  - Civil Litigation
  - Commissioners of Affidavits
  - Justices of the Peace

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2 : Trinidad and Tobago Gazette No. 45 of 2022 accessed on August 09, 2023 : http://news.gov.tt/sites/default/files/E-Gazette/Gazette%202022/Gazettes/Gazette%20No.%2045%20of%202022.pdf
- Legal Advice to the Government
- Liquor Licenses
- Marriage Licenses

- Office of the Chief Parliamentary Counsel – Legislative Drafting
- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- Law Revision
- Legal Service Complaints
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Constitution Reform
- Registrar General
  - Civil Registry
  - Companies Registry
  - Land Registry
  - Rent Restriction
- Intellectual Property – Copyright and Related Rights
  - Trademarks – Industrial Property
- Criminal Justice System
  - Reform and transformation
  - Quicker Justice Initiative Programme

**Statutory Boards and Other Bodies:**

The Office’s responsibilities as published in the Gazette No. 45 of March 22nd, 2022, are:
- Central Authority
- Council of Legal Education
- Environmental Commission
- Equal Opportunity Commission
- Equal Opportunity Tribunal
- Hugh Wooding Law School
- Industrial Court
- International Law and Human Rights Unit
- Law Reform Commission
- Law Revision Commission
- Legal Aid and Advisory Authority
- Sentencing Commission
- Tax Appeal Board

**Indirect:**
- Police Complaints Authority

**Departments:**
Some of the Departments of the Office are:

**The Anti-Terrorism Unit (ATU)**
The Anti-Terrorism Unit (ATU) was established by the Miscellaneous Provisions (Proceeds of Crime, Anti-Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago) Act No. 20 of 2018. The Core objective of the Anti-Terrorism Unit (ATU) is to efficiently carry out the functions of the Attorney General pursuant to the Anti-Terrorism Act, Chap. 12:07. Primarily, the ATU implements Section 22B of the Act by making applications to the High Court for the designation of individuals and entities, both domestically and detailed on various United Nations Sanctions Lists, and the application of Targeted Financial Sanctions. The ATU also works closely with key national agencies relative to Counter Terrorism matters as well as with our international partners.³

The Central Authority Unit (CAU)
The Central Authority Unit in the Ministry of the Attorney General was established under the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Act, 1997. This Act gives effect to the Commonwealth Scheme in Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters (the Harare Scheme) which is a non-Treaty based scheme which depends upon States enacting domestic legislation to facilitate international cooperation in criminal matters. The Central Authority Unit therefore is the designated authority responsible for executing requests for Mutual Legal Assistance. In this regard, the primary duty of the Central Authority is to satisfy itself that incoming requests can be properly executed and to ensure that all the necessary information is provided to satisfy the requirements of the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act.⁴

The Chief Parliamentary Counsel
The Chief Parliamentary Counsel heads the Legislative Drafting Department, which plays a critical role in the implementation of Government policy. The mission of the Office is to produce technically sound legislation for client Ministries; to advise the Government

on the Constitution and all legal aspects of legislation, to advise Parliament on issues relating to Parliamentary procedure and legal matters and to accomplish the foregoing competently within the framework of excellent interpersonal relationships among the staff and that of client Ministries, the Cabinet and Parliament.  

**The Chief State Solicitor**

The Chief State Solicitor provides legal services to other Government Ministries and Departments as well as to the members of the public. Its main functions are as follows:

- To focus on commercial and property law matters and in these areas serve both the Government and the public in the preparation of deeds and contracts for its commercial enterprises and for the engagement of consultants and other personnel
- To instruct the Solicitor General in Civil Litigation Matters

**Legal Services provided to the public:**

- Contracts
- Conveyancing
- Administrator General
- Public Trustee
- Mental Health Applications
- Official Receiver

**Criminal Justice Unit (CJU)**

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The Criminal Justice Unit (CJU), Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs (“AGLA”) was established by Cabinet Note No. AGLA (20)70 dated 15th June 2020 and gazetted on 9th September 2020 via Gazette No. 158 of 2020.

Criminal Justice Sector reform has been a principal issue of much national concern and disquiet requiring the undivided attention of the AGLA. The establishment of the Criminal Justice Unit symbolizes the amalgamation of Criminal Justice reformation efforts under the umbrella of a singular coordinator. This only serves to enhance productivity and innovation in the arena.7

**The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions**

The Director of Public Prosecutions, a position created by the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago, is the head of the Criminal Law Department. The establishment of this position stemmed from the need for a constitutional post that would always be independent of political and stakeholder involvement in the prosecution of criminal matters. In this circumstance, the independence of this post is constitutionally guaranteed.8

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CHAPTER 1 - GENERAL MATTERS
LIMITATION OF THE SCOPE/INDEPENDENCE
Limitations of the Audit of Statement of Revenue

1.12 Following the recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee in the first quarter of 2017, the Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue and the Auditor General met on several occasions during the course of the financial years 2017 and 2018 under the auspices of the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs.

1.13 The Auditor General submitted proposals for the consideration of the Attorney General. However, these proposals were not accepted by the Inland Revenue Division. The Auditor General has always maintained that it has a legal right to access the information and due to the inability of the parties involved to come to a consensus, the Auditor General in 2019 and 2020 requested the Attorney General to file an interpretation summons for the interpretation of section 4 of the Income Tax Act.

1.14 Subsequently in March 22, 2022 the Auditor General wrote to the newly appointed Attorney General detailing the history of the ten (10) year old unresolved legal matter. The Attorney General assistance was requested in the form of an interpretation summons or any other action the Attorney General may see that can lead to the Auditor General fulfilling its’ Constitutional mandate.

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1.15 On April 11, 2023 the Attorney General confirmed his Office would make an application to the Supreme Court for an interpretation of the secrecy provisions of section 4 of the Income Tax Act, Chapter 75:01. However, at the time of this report the secrecy provisions remain as a limitation.

**Deposit Accounts - $9,684,443,938.19**

2.54 Ministries and Departments are given approval by the Comptroller of Accounts to maintain Deposit Accounts. Monies accepted as deposits are lodged with the Treasury Deposit accounts.

2.56 Financial Instruction 213 (1) also requires ministries and departments, unless otherwise directed, to transfer all deposits which have remained unclaimed for three (3) years to revenue. Individual ministries and departments who have deposits for more than three (3) years and other findings included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heads of Expenditure</th>
<th>Deposit Account</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 - Office of the Attorney General and</td>
<td>111/02 - Administrator</td>
<td>Authorization for the retention of these three (3) balances amounting to $2,797,484.49, by the Treasury, was not presented.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Legal Affairs</td>
<td>111/44 - Chief State Solicitor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>140/04 - Official Receiver</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>140/08 - Public Trustee</td>
<td>A difference of $3,181.47 under Public Trustee was noted between the total Composition of Balance for Investments $4,067,414.47 and the audited figure $4,070,595.94.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current Transfers

3.15 With effect from October 1, 2019, a Treasury decision was taken to decentralise the payment of contract gratuities to ministries and departments. Ministries and departments are now required to bring to account contract gratuities under 04 - Current Transfers and Subsides/007 - Households/40 - Gratuities to Contract Officers. Ministries and Departments Appropriation Statements recorded $183,345,509.83 expended to meet the payments of contract gratuities.

Extract of Table 3.3 Contract Gratuity Payment as per Appropriation Account 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head</th>
<th>Ministry/Department</th>
<th>2022 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Office of the Attorney General &amp; Ministry of Legal Affairs</td>
<td>13,210,890.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commitments

3.17 Comptroller of Accounts Circular No. 15 dated July 27, 2022 required ministries and departments to present in the Notes to the accounts at Note 21(i) of the Appropriation Accounts a statement showing total outstanding commitments in respect of each sub-head of expenditure as at September 30, 2022. Presented below in Table 3.4 are the commitments recorded by Ministries and Departments at Note 21(i) of their Appropriation Accounts.

Extract of Table 3.4 Commitments as per Note 21(i)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Head</th>
<th>Ministry</th>
<th>Commitments as per Note 21 (i) ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs</td>
<td>137,430.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE

Head 23 - Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs
Expenditure Control

Sub-head 02/Sub-item 08 Rent/ Lease - Office Accommodation and Storage

3.37 A sample of seven (7) from twenty-one (21) rental properties was examined. Cabinet approvals were not produced for six (6) of the seven (7) properties sampled. In addition, signed lease/rental agreements were not produced for the seven (7) properties. This matter was raised in previous years and has been attributed to the length of time taken by the Property and Real Estate Division to have leases executed. The result is that rental payments totalling $1,563,798.50 for these seven (7) properties were paid without evidence of formal terms and conditions.

3.38 Terms and conditions in formal, written lease agreements define with certainty the rights and obligation of the parties to the agreement. These include for example the respective parties’ responsibilities regarding repair and maintenance, utilities and the extent to which leasehold improvements can be made to the property etc.

3.39 In the absence of signed lease agreements, it could be more difficult to enforce the State’s rights under such agreements, leaving the State in a potentially more vulnerable legal position. The public interest is best protected where lease agreements remain formal and executed.

Sub-head 02/Item 001/Sub-item 23 - Fees

3.40 The classification of Expenditure Sub-items describes the type of expenditure to be classified under Sub-item - 23 Fees. From a sample of thirty-six (36) vouchers there were six (6) instances in which certain services provided were incorrectly brought to account under the Sub-item Fees. Expenditure under this classification included payments for services provided by Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (TSTT), Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC), housekeeping services and cable services.
Sub-head 04 - Current Transfers and Subsidies

Gratuities to Contract Officers

3.41 A sample of payments totalling $750,573.43 for ten (10) contract officers was selected. These payments were in respect of gratuities due for the years 2015, 2017 and 2019 - 2021. This is in contravention of Financial Instruction 106 which states: “Accounting officers are responsible for ensuring that payments are settled within the financial year in which they become due.”

Section D - Notes to the accounts

Note 21 (ii) Particulars in respect of contracts already entered into but not yet completed

3.42 Pursuant to an audit request for information relating to the expenditure of the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs on the outfitting of the Office accommodation located in Port-of-Spain, it was presented that expenditure for the financial years 2018 - 2022 amounted to $23,233,833.45.

3.43 The information provided also stated that the original scope of works for this accommodation was completed in July 2020 by the National Infrastructure Development Company (NIDCO). It was also observed that rent paid in respect of this accommodation for the period May 01, 2019 - October 31, 2022 amounted to $23,625,000.00. To date, the building remains unoccupied.

STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

4.4 Section 24 (1) (c) of the Act, Chapter 69:01 as amended by Act No. 23 of 1998 requires Receivers of Revenue to prepare and transmit to the Auditor General their Statements of Receipts and Disbursements in such a form as the Treasury may direct. By Comptroller of Accounts Circular No. 14 dated July 27, 2022, Receivers of Revenue were required to transmit to the Auditor General, Statements of Receipts and Disbursements in respect of monies collected under the Items of Revenue for which they are responsible on or before January 31, 2023. The following Receivers of Revenue did not comply with the Comptroller of Accounts Circular No.14, as required:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receiver of Revenue</th>
<th>Date Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AT5 - Permanent Secretary, Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs</td>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AT6 - Registrar General, Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs</td>
<td>March 31, 2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Supplementation of Appropriation for the fiscal year 2023:

During fiscal 2023, it was necessary to have a Supplementation of Appropriation of resources to fund urgent and critical Recurrent and Capital Expenditure in areas where insufficient or no allocation was provided. The source of these additional funds was the Consolidated Fund. The Office of the Attorney General and The Ministry of Legal Affairs requested and was granted the following supplementations:

**Recurrent Expenditure - $266,697,740**

01/001/01 – Salaries and Cost of Living Allowance - $7,800,600
To meet the cost of filling thirty-six (36) vacant positions as well as paying outstanding acting allowance and increments owed to persons on the monthly paid establishment.

02/001/04 – Electricity - $198,740
To meet obligations to the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) to September 30, 2023.

02/001/05 – Telephones - $2,000,000
To meet obligations to the Telecommunication Services of Trinidad and Tobago (TSTT) and Columbus Communications to September 30, 2023.

02/009/08 – Rent/Lease Office Accommodation and Storage - $6,000,000

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To pay the rental cost of accommodation for the North and South offices of the Director of Public Prosecutions (D.P.P.) for the period July to September 30, 2023.

**02/001/16 – Contract Employment - $17,000,000**
To facilitate the recruitment of persons to fill vacant positions, as well as to pay contract officers whose terms and conditions of employment have been revised.

**02/001/22 – Short Term Employment - $5,000,000**
To meet the cost of hiring persons on a short term basis to undertake the digitization of the Ministry’s records.

**02/001/23 – Fees - $190,000,000**
To facilitate the payment of outstanding fees to local and foreign attorneys-at-law for the provision of legal services.

**02/001/27 – Official Overseas Travel - $2,000,000**
To meet the cost of official overseas travel to September 30, 2023.

**02/001/28 – Other Contracted Services - $3,000,000**
To meet obligations for the maintenance of software at the Civil and Companies Registries.

**02/001/62 – Promotions, Publicity and Printing - $1,000,000**
To meet the cost associated with the roll-out of five (5) initiatives geared towards sensitizing the general public on the role and functions of the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs.
02/001/66 – Hosting of Conferences, Seminars and Other Functions - $2,000,000
To host the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CTATF) Plenary held on May 29th – June 2nd, 2023 as well as consultations and workshops.

04/005/01 – Legal Aid and Advisory Authority - $14,198,400
To meet the cost for filling positions of Public Defenders, to pay gratuities owed to persons whose contract ended, pay monies owed to contract officers whose terms and conditions of employment has been revised and to pay fees owed to external attorneys at law for matters engaged at the Magistrate, Civil and High Courts.

04/007/40 – Gratuities to Contract Officers - $15,000,000
To facilitate the payment of gratuities to persons whose contract have expired.

04/009/01 Police Complaints Authority - $1,500,000
To enable the Police Complaints Authority to meet its operational costs to September 2023.

Development Programme - $13,318,000
09/005/06/A/018 – Strengthened Information Management of the Registrar General’s Department - $8,318,000
The sum is required to facilitate the completion of the Property Business Registration System - Variation 1 & 2, Change Log, Phase C.

09/005/06/F/011 – Fit-Out of the AGLA Tower – Government Campus - $2,000,000
Funding is required to meet the cost of fit-out works at the 20th floor, AGLA Tower to accommodate the Digitization, Criminal Justice, and Anti-Terrorism Units.
09/005/06/F/013 – Outfitting of Accommodation for Director of Public Prosecutions, South - $3,000,000

The sum is required to meet the payment to the Urban Development Corporation Trinidad and Tobago Ltd for outfitting works completed on the Director of Public Prosecutions, South Office.
Public Sector Investment Programme 2024

Public Buildings

- an allocation of $10.9 million will be provided for the relocation and outfitting of various offices within the Office of the Attorney General and the Ministry of Legal Affairs, including the additional security requirements for the Director of Public Prosecutions, North; and the relocation of the Civil Law Department and the Registrar General’s Department to Gulf City, La Romaine;

Information Technology and Digital Infrastructure

At the Office of the Attorney General, the IDB-assisted *Strengthened Information Management of the Registrar General’s Department* will be concluded by utilising the sum of $4.9 million. The objective of the project is to improve conditions for investment in Trinidad and Tobago, by streamlining the property registration process. The main components include:

- institutional capacity strengthening of the Registrar General’s Department; and
- support to strengthen the identification of parcels and persons in property registration.

Administration: Providing Modern, Safe Public Buildings

- the provision of accommodation for the Director of Public Prosecutions’ (DPP), North office advanced to 96 percent completion. The sum of $16.0 million was allocated, of which a total of $8.2 million was expended. A sum of $5.0 million was also allocated to undertake works at the DPP’s South office. Works done included, outfitting of the offices, installation of gypsum partitions, furniture and workstations, works to the kitchen facilities, library, and storage. Electrical and ICT systems were also installed;

The Ministry’s total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2018 to 2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$330,248,121.00</td>
<td>$54,211,726,813.00</td>
<td>0.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$392,382,842.00</td>
<td>$54,581,467,181.00</td>
<td>0.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$439,516,085.00</td>
<td>$57,388,076,726.00</td>
<td>0.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$453,752,919.00</td>
<td>$56,498,472,820.00</td>
<td>0.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$471,042,256.00</td>
<td>$58,974,346,470.00</td>
<td>0.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>$647,805,060.00</td>
<td>$67,063,358,456.00</td>
<td>0.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>$466,130,000.00</td>
<td>$68,384,229,740.00</td>
<td>0.68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Total allocation for the Ministry as a percentage of the National Budget illustrated a decrease in the allocation to the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs by .29% between the years 2023 and 2024.

[1] For the Fiscal Years 2018-2022, actual figures were used to calculate the Ministry’s total allocation. However, estimates were used to determine the Ministry’s total allocation for the Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024.


Where the Ministry spends its money

2024 Estimates of Expenditure

The budget allocation of $466,130,000 for the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs is comprised of:

- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure in the sum of $440,330,000 and
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme Consolidated Fund in the sum of $25,800,000.

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure includes:

- 01 Personnel Expenditure - $96,850,000;
- 02 Goods and Services- $243,296,600;
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases - $1,462,500; and
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies - $98,720,900.

The Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs:

- Total allocation as a percentage of National Budget is 0.68%
- Recurrent Expenditure as a percentage of the total Recurrent Expenditure budget is 0.67%; and
- Consolidated Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Consolidated Fund allocation is 0.8%.
Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2018-2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01 Personnel Expenditure</td>
<td>$84724,404.00</td>
<td>$87151,154.00</td>
<td>$86408,325.00</td>
<td>$87882,989.00</td>
<td>$91944,316.00</td>
<td>$92445,400.00</td>
<td>$96850,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02 Goods and Services</td>
<td>$189536,094.00</td>
<td>$221568,366.00</td>
<td>$236458,685.00</td>
<td>$272902,177.00</td>
<td>$272816,836.00</td>
<td>$434106,520.00</td>
<td>$243296,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03 Minor Equipment Purchases</td>
<td>$584,531.00</td>
<td>$1357,442.00</td>
<td>$4001,337.00</td>
<td>$1095,913.00</td>
<td>$1404,402.00</td>
<td>$1033,900.00</td>
<td>$1462,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04 Current Transfers and Subsidies</td>
<td>$42570,311.00</td>
<td>$52604,418.00</td>
<td>$68699,346.00</td>
<td>$73276,658.00</td>
<td>$74232,745.00</td>
<td>$97519,240.00</td>
<td>$98720,900.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2018 -2024
2018 Actual $317,415,340.00

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: $189,366,094.00 (60%)
- 02 Goods and Services: $84,724,404.00 (27%)
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: $42,570,311.00 (13%)
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: $584,531.00 (0%)

2019 Actual $362,681,380.00

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: $221,568,366.00 (61%)
- 02 Goods and Services: $72,151,540.00 (24%)
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: $13,574,420.00 (15%)
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: $5,260,418.00 (0%)
2022 Actual $440,398,299.00

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: $140,440,000; 0%
- 02 Goods and Services: $919,443,600; 21%
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: $74,232,745.00; 17%
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: $272,816,836.00; 62%

2023 Revised Estimates $625,105,060

- 01 Personnel Expenditure: $92,445,400.00; 15%
- 02 Goods and Services: $9,751,924.00; 16%
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases: $1,033,900.00; 0%
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies: $434,105,220.00; 69%
Staff and Pay

The allocation of staff expenditure for the fiscal year 2024 was $205,178,100.00. The following chart provides a breakdown of all expenditure related to staff from 2022-2024.

[Chart image]

Summary of Staff and Pay Expenditure for the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs 2022-2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2022 Actual</th>
<th>2023 Revised Estimates</th>
<th>2024 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel Expenditure</td>
<td>$91,944,316</td>
<td>$92,445,400</td>
<td>$96,850,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniforms</td>
<td>$59,495</td>
<td>$68,020</td>
<td>$88,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelling and Subsistence</td>
<td>$121,541</td>
<td>$167,050</td>
<td>$171,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Employment</td>
<td>$64,378,029</td>
<td>$66,725,000</td>
<td>$65,175,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>$387,577</td>
<td>$480,000</td>
<td>$710,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-Term Employment</td>
<td>$312,925,12</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travelling - Direct Charges</td>
<td>$518,1596</td>
<td>$541,2543</td>
<td>$554,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees Assistance Programme</td>
<td>$25,988</td>
<td>$73,000</td>
<td>$93,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis and Summary of Expenditure

Recurrent Expenditure refers to the payments for expenses which are incurred during the day-to-day operations of the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal for Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services, Minor Equipment Purchases and Current Transfers and Subsidies.

- Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2024 is $440,330,000. Comparing this figure with the Revised Estimate for Fiscal Year 2023 of $625,105,060, there is a decrease of $184,775,060 or approximately 30%.

- The largest portion of the allocation has consistently gone to Sub-Head 02 Goods and Services over the period 2018-2024. This figure has been fluctuating over the period 2018–2024. The sum of $243,296,600 allocated to the Ministry for Fiscal Year 2024, accounted for approximately 55% of total Recurrent Expenditure received by the Ministry.

- Sub-Head 03 Minor Equipment Purchases received the lowest portion of the total allocation for the Ministry over the period 2018–2024. The allocation to this Sub-Head for Fiscal Year, 2024 is approximately .33% of total funding for the Ministry for Fiscal Year 2024.

- Sub-Head 01 Personnel Expenditure received the second largest portion of the allocation over the period 2018 – 2022. However, in the years 2023 and 2024 the second largest portion of allocation went to Sub-Head 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies. Comparing 2023 to 2024, Personnel Expenditure has, increased by $4,404,600 or approximately 4.8%.

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Analysis of Expenditure Unique to the Ministry

Unique Expenditure refers to expenditure items incurred by the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs that may not feature in other Ministries or Departments. The two items unique to the Ministry are transfers to the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants\(^\text{14}\) and the United International Bureau for the Protection of Intellectual Property\(^\text{15}\)

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\(^{14}\) The International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) is an intergovernmental whose mission is to provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants, for the benefit of society. UPOV website: [https://www.upov.int/portal/index.html.en](https://www.upov.int/portal/index.html.en), Accessed on August 09, 2023

\(^{15}\) The United International Bureau for the Protection of Intellectual Property is the predecessor of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) whose mission is to lead the development of a balanced and effective international IP system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all. WIPO website [https://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/](https://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/), Accessed on August 09, 2023
Development Programme is capital expenditure aimed at improving and enhancing development in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago which includes; human resources, economic and social development.

The allocation of $25,800,000 for development programmes and projects for fiscal year 2024 is solely for funds appropriated by Parliament and disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund. The monies were allocated to the following Item:

- Funds disbursed via **Multi-Sectoral and Other Services** representing 100% of the total allocation.

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**Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2018-2024**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>004 Social Infrastructure - Consolidated Fund</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005 Multi-Sectoral and Other Services - Consolidated Fund</td>
<td>$12832,781.00</td>
<td>$29701,462.00</td>
<td>$43948,392.00</td>
<td>$18595,182.00</td>
<td>$30643,957.00</td>
<td>$22700,000.00</td>
<td>$25800,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2019**

The following new projects received funding in the 2019 financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005-06-A-025</td>
<td>Modernization of the Companies Registry</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$5,269,838</td>
<td>$1,662,051</td>
<td>$1,392,223</td>
<td>Removed</td>
<td>Removed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F-026</td>
<td>Fit-Out Accommodation for Civil Law Department</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>$8,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F-027</td>
<td>Accommodations for District Registrar Offices</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F-028</td>
<td>Provision of Accommodation for the Legal Aid and Advisory Authority</td>
<td>$1,405,842</td>
<td>$6,308,029</td>
<td>$1,916,181</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2021\(^\text{18}\)

The following new projects received funding in the 2021 financial year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2021</th>
<th>PROJECTS</th>
<th>2021 Actual</th>
<th>2022 Actual</th>
<th>2023 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2024 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005-06-A-045</td>
<td>Digitisation of the Office of the Attorney General and Ministry of Legal Affairs</td>
<td>$1,947,565.</td>
<td>$1,993,015</td>
<td>$500,000.</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F-029</td>
<td>Outfitting of Accommodation for Registrar General Department</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$500,000.</td>
<td>$4,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2022

The following new projects received funding in the 2022 financial year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development Programme 2022</th>
<th>PROJECTS</th>
<th>2022 Actual</th>
<th>2023 Revised Estimate</th>
<th>2024 Estimates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>005-06-F-030</td>
<td>Renovation of Winsure Building</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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General Useful Information

- Attorney General’s Chambers, Jamaica: https://www.agc.gov.jm/
- Attorney General’s Department, Australia: https://www.ag.gov.au/
- Attorney General’s Office, United Kingdom: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/attorney-generals-office