

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING
BY DEPUTY M.B. ANDREWS OF ST HELIER NORTH
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 2025
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2025**

Question

“Further to his response to [Oral Question 79/2025](#), will the Minister advise the number of Islanders who have received funding through the Skills Development Fund since its launch, and whether it is considered that the fund provides sufficient investment for Islander’s skills development to mitigate any labour market displacement due to automation and artificial intelligence?”

Answer

Approximately 2,060 Islanders have accessed upskilling courses through the Skills Development Scheme since its launch.

The Skills Development Scheme was reviewed in January 2025, with a recommendation to prioritise funding towards identified skills gaps and commission targeted training through public tender. Following a robust process the 2025 priorities include:

- Childminder qualifications
- Roofing, solar panel and PV installation
- Low-carbon heating design and installation
- Health Care Assistant training
- Historic property maintenance
- Scaffolding
- Specialist culinary skills
- Data analysis

The 2026 priorities remain subject to change, but is expected to include:

- Electric car battery dismantling and handling
- Wall and loft insulation
- Business accounting, management and leadership
- Advanced fire detection and alarm qualifications

A full review of the Skills Development Fund including its impact and process is scheduled for 2027. This review will provide an assessment of sufficiency regarding funding and timeliness of training to support the labour market.