

Union Street | St Helier
Jersey | JE2 3DN

Deputy Catherine Curtis
Chair – Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel

Sent by email only

5 November 2025

Dear Chair,

Follow-up matters from the Public Hearing on 28th October 2025.

Thank you for your letter of 29th October asking for further details following our public hearing last week. Please see the below answers to your questions and please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Follow up information:

- **Further details about the anticipated growth of student numbers at Mont A L'Abbe school.**

Demand for Mont a L'Abbé has increased significantly in recent years and is currently capped due to capacity within the existing building. They are currently unable to offer Nursery provision for this reason, and Reception numbers have been limited by space. Subsequently, there are a number of children in mainstream schools who require a space at Mont a L'Abbé.

The growth in demand is similar to the increase in England. Whilst birth numbers are falling, medical interventions at birth have resulted in improved life expectancy which leads to increased demand for Mont a L'Abbé. In addition, we experience pressure points when children with highly complex needs arrive on the island from elsewhere and require provision. The school needs to have capacity to receive these children at short notice.

	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
Primary	46	47	50	56	60	61	62	61	67	68
Secondary	43	49	50	49	53	56	57	67	64	64
Total	89	96	100	105	113	117	119	128	131	132

Forecasting has considered this continued growth in demand, with an offer than includes children of Nursery age and above, that can cater for all children requiring Mont A L'Abbé. We anticipate this demand could reach 185 in ten years, and as such we have proposed a total school capacity of 200, which would allow flexibility in the use of the space, and ensure we can respond to children arriving in the island.

- **Further details about the 2026 programme for the 'Fire Safety in CYPES Estate' funding (under 'Major refurbishments and upgrades').**

The 2026 programme for fire mitigation includes the fire safety upgrade of thirteen primary schools. The remaining secondary school sites will have their design work completed in Q1 2026 and made ready for work on site in 2027.

The following five primary schools which were tendered Q3 2025 will commence work on site in Q1 2026:

Jersey College Preparatory School (mixed)
Mont Nicolle Primary School & Nursery
Mont a L'Abbe Primary School
Janvrin Primary School & Nursery
La Moye Primary School & Nursery

The following eight primary schools will be ready to tender in December 2025 and will commence on site Q2/3 2026:

St Saviour's Primary School & Nursery
Grands Vaux Primary School & Nursery
Springfield Primary School & Nursery
St Lukes Primary School & Nursery
St Mary Primary School & Nursery
D'Auvergne Primary School & Nursery
Rouge Bouillon Primary School & Nursery
Bel Royal Primary School & Nursery

- **An updated list of the range of projects the 2026 funding for Highlands College works (under 'Major Refurbishments and upgrades').**

Location	Project Description
Highlands Art Building	First Floor Roof
Highlands Art Building	Ground Floor Roof
Highlands Art & Media	Complete Boiler upgrades Art & Media from 2025 due to CYPES supply works at d'Hautree
Highlands University Centre	Boiler Room Upgrade
Highlands Construction	Boiler Room Upgrade
Highlands Brunel	Boiler Room Upgrade
Highlands Stephenson	Boiler Room Upgrade
Nash Building	Refurbishment and heating system
Link to Turner building	Refurbishment and structural upgrades

- **Details of what the school improvements funding under the ‘Upgrades to CYPES Estates’ will deliver.**

Project Name
School Aircon Replacement (various sites)
Samares Phase 2
St Clements Playground Replacement
First Tower High Level Balustrading
Mont Nicolle Fencing & Gate
Le Rocquier Cookery Room
Grainville Void Infill art/ DT
St Johns School Nursery Outdoor Works
Victoria College Reception Block (starting Oct 2025)
Clairmont Astroturf Changing Room Refurbishment

- **The reason for the reduction in funding for ‘Discrimination, Disability and Accessibility works’ in this Budget (£300,000 in 2026, compared to £700,000 in the 2024 – 2027 Government Plan).**

The ambition of capital programmes prior to 2025 significantly exceeded the capacity to deliver. This plan delivers a refocused, deliverable Capital Programme for the next four years.

It has been right sized to a more deliverable level, focusing on those projects that are most impactful to Islanders and mitigate key risks. A more deliverable and realistic programme also reduces our reliance upon consultants, contractors and associated costs.

While affordability is always a key constraint on Government’s project ambitions, in recent years departmental spending on projects has significantly lagged behind available budgets due to internal and external capacity constraints.

Supplementary questions

- **Please could you provide a breakdown of how the £647,500 allocated for Jèrriais in 2025 has been / will be used as per the planned expenditure.**

Non-staff	£102,500
Staff	£545,000
Grand Total	£647,500

Recorded expenditure 01/01/25 to 30/09/25

Type	Income	Non-staff costs	STAFF COSTS	Grand Total
40010000 - Sale of Goods	-£925			-£925
Income	-£925	£0	£0	-£925
Staff (Teachers and Lecturers - Salaries and on-costs)	£0	£0	£336,036	£336,036
5100001* - Other - client costs misc		£171		£171
51000030 - Mileage and Travel Claims		£1,249		£1,249
51110000 - Mineral, Textile, Plant & Animal Materials		£14		£14
51140000 - Paper Materials and Products		£82		£82
51310000 - Manufacturing Components and Supplies		£72		£72
51420000 - Medical Equipment and Supplies		£62		£62
51430000 - IT and Telecommunications		£2,245		£2,245
51440000 - Office Equipment and Supplies		£191		£191
51490000 - Sports Equipment and Supplies		£104		£104
51500000 - Food and Beverage Products		£370		£370
51520000 - Domestic Appliances, Supplies and Electronics		£265		£265
51530000 - Clothing and Personal Care Products		£9		£9
51550000 - Published Products		-£20		-£20
51600000 - Educational, Art, Music and Games Supplies		£4,569		£4,569
51720000 - Building Construction & Other Maintenance		-£4,032		-£4,032
51780000 - Transportation, Storage and Mail Services		£198		£198
51781100 - Passenger Transport		£5,907		£5,907
51800000 - Business and Management Admin Services		£24		£24
51820000 - Editorial, Design and Fine Art Services		£1,400		£1,400
51860000 - Education and Training Services		£16,018		£16,018
51900000 - Travel Agency, Lodging, Ent and Food Services		£1,720		£1,720
51940000 - Professional Subscriptions and Memberships		£159		£159
Non-staff costs	£0	£30,776	£0	£30,776
Grand Total	-£925	£30,776	£336,036	£365,887

Mapped against planned non-staff expenditure for 2025

Action	Predicted	Actual to 30.9.2025
Develop and expand the school Jèrriais education programme	£76,700	£30,201
Increase Jerriais participation and attainment	£7,500	£540
Increase media coverage	£8,700	£24
Develop written forms of Jerriais	£5,000	
Defining Jerriais roles and responsibilities	£2,000	
Jerriais development	£5,100	£9
Total	£105,000	£30,775

- Please could you confirm the funding allocation for 2026 and provide a breakdown of the planned expenditure of this funding and outline what it will deliver.

The opening budget for 2026 will be the same as the closing budget for 2025. Additional budget for the teachers' pay awards will be allocated for 2026, subject to the Budget Debate.

i.e. the opening budget will be allocated as £545k to teaching salaries and other payroll costs and £105k across non-pay categories.

In terms of delivery, the aim is to continue to provide Jerriais lessons in schools with a greater focus on language proficiency; a plan is also being prioritised for maintaining cultural awareness, teaching adults and making sure that all aspects of Jerriais are delivered efficiently and to high standards. Highlights are the launch of a new documentary film and plans to dive deeper into language pedagogy through developing bespoke phonics resources.

Additional queries

1. The Budget includes funding of £300,000 in 2026 for ‘Replacement of assets and minor capital’. Please could you describe or give examples of what that might include?

a. How is it split across schools, or is it for central use?

Site	Project Title
Le Rocquier	Playground Fencing
Bel Royal	Intruder Alarm Replacement
St Clement	Intruder & Physical Access Control (PAC) replacement
St Clement	Ball netting replacement
Bel Royal	Nature garden upgrade
Grainville	Stage fire curtains & blinds
St Lukes	Ball court & fencing replacement
JCG	J3 food & nutrition classroom refurbishment
First Tower	Intruder Alarm
La Moye	Replacement of trim trail & playground
D’Auvergne	ARC Toilets
JCG	Security

2. Please could you provide details as to where that budget sits [for example, within the Service Level analysis, e.g page 16 of the Annex]?

The budget for the Jersey Library Services is within the “Office of the Chief Officer – MELL”.

a. What is the funding for 2026?

£1.67 million

b. How does that funding compare to previous years?

The 2026 budget is £50k less than 2025 due to the removal of a vacant post as a contribution to the VFM programme.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rob Ward', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Deputy Rob Ward
Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning