



States Greffe

Deputy Kirsten Morel
Minister for Sustainable Economic Development

BY EMAIL

19 January 2026

Dear Minister

Follow-up matters from the Public Hearing on 7th January 2026

Thank you for attending the public hearing, together with your Officer, your time is much appreciated. During the hearing commitments were provided to follow up with:

1. The detailed breakdown of apprentice numbers by course for 2025.

Additionally, the Panel also has some subsequent queries that we would be grateful if you could also respond to:

Futureproofing the workforce

2. Can you explain how policies will ensure that workers in declining sectors have access to retraining opportunities aligned with growth industries?
3. A number of submissions have highlighted that financial barriers can prevent individuals from pursuing a career change or retraining later in life. Could you outline what steps the Government is taking to remove or reduce these barriers, and how you are ensuring that people have equitable access to lifelong vocational learning opportunities regardless of their financial circumstances?

Grants and incentives for businesses

4. The Apprenticeship Funding report published on 5 January 2026 recognises that employers are already make significant contributions by paying wages, providing training time, and offering mentoring before apprentices become fully productive. Given that many participants felt employers lack the capacity to contribute more financially, how do you plan to support employers so that apprenticeships remain viable and attractive?
5. The Apprenticeship Funding report also highlights concerns that, without stronger incentives, employers may be reluctant to take on apprentices. What measures are you considering to strengthen incentives and reduce dropout rates, ensuring employers feel confident in investing their time and resources?
6. Participants in the Apprenticeship Funding review noted that stronger incentives are needed to encourage employers to take on individuals with little or no work experience and train them to industry standards. How will your department work with employers to address this challenge, and what specific forms of incentive or support are being explored?

7. Are there plans to introduce, or expand, subsidies for companies that provide structured lifelong learning opportunities, and how will these contribute to retaining skilled workers in Jersey?

Industry Engagement and Feedback

8. How does the Department consult with industry stakeholders when identifying current and future skills gaps?
 - What feedback has been received from employers regarding skills shortages, reskilling needs, or barriers to workforce development?
 - Which sectors have reported the most significant issues with skills gaps, and what quantitative evidence supports this?
9. What steps are being taken to ensure consultation processes include both large corporations and small to medium enterprises across diverse sectors?
10. The Panel has heard that third-sector organisations can play an important role in bridging the gap between government and businesses by supporting skills development, work experience, and guidance. Could you outline how the Government is engaging with these organisations, and what steps have been taken to ensure their contribution is recognised and integrated into wider vocational learning and economic development strategies?

Economic impact and measurement

11. Minister, can you outline what metrics the Government will use to measure the economic impact of lifelong learning and apprenticeship programmes?
12. Minister, can you inform the Panel how these initiatives will contribute to productivity growth and Jersey's economic resilience?
13. Minister, can you explain whether there is a strategy to link apprenticeship outcomes to broader economic indicators, such as employment rates and sectoral competitiveness?

Thank you in advance for your assistance. The Panel looks forward to your formal response and would request that this is received by **26 January 2026.**

Yours sincerely,



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