

2022 - 2026

Legacy Report:

Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel

17th April 2026

S.R.14/2026



States of Jersey
States Assembly



États de Jersey
Assemblée des États

Contents

Introduction	5
Review output / work undertaken	7
Reports.....	7
Comments papers	8
Amendments and Propositions	11
Other methods of working	12
Quarterly Hearings	12
Letters	12
Briefings	12
Advisers	12
Public engagement.....	13
Visits	13
Suggestions for future work	15
General Review topics.....	15
Online Harms	15
Lifelong Learning	16
Funding for nursery and childcare provision.....	17
New Common Strategic Policy and Government Budget (Government Plan).....	17
Investment in Children’s Services	18
Youth Justice	18
Leadership structure in Education	19
CYPES Estates.....	19
Capital projects for Justice and Home Affairs.....	19
Funding to support the Violence Against Women and Girls Legislation.....	20
Work Permit Policy.....	20
Jersey Play Plan 2025 - 2028	21
Teaching the language of Jèrriais	21
Forthcoming legislation.....	22
Updates to the Education (Jersey) Law 1999.....	21
Fire Precautions Law	22
Appendix 1	23

Chair's Foreword



I have been very pleased to have held the role of Chair of the Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel over the past four-years; the only Panel to have the same Chair throughout the term. This Panel's remit is very interesting but extremely extensive and requires a real commitment from Panel members and officers.

As well as reviewing policy and legislation, we looked out for important issues not being covered by government, which is why we held the "Online Harms" review. The findings and recommendations of this review provide an informed base for future policy and legislation on this very important matter.

The Panel has examined much detailed legislation, and our method has always been to involve stakeholders, which is why, for example, we called in the Draft Marriage and Civil Partnership (Dissolution and Separation) Jersey law, and why we held several meetings with the CEO of Island Energy during the drafting process of the Draft Jersey Gas Company Amendment Law.

The Panel held many private meetings with stakeholders when there were concerns over policy, or implementation of a policy, for example, with educational psychologists.

We have responded to issues raised by parents and campaigners, for example, FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder) assessment and support, allergy response in schools, and the bullying reporting process.

The Panel's first amendment in 2022 was to the Common Strategic Policy to work towards free primary healthcare for all children in Jersey. This paved the way for States Assembly agreement, so that now children's medical appointments are free.

There has been much work done, as can be seen in this legacy report.

The Panel emphasises the vital role of Scrutiny as a constructive and critical friend to Government, a role we have consistently sought to fulfil. Open and timely access to information is essential to ensuring that Scrutiny can contribute positively to transparent and effective governance.

I would like to thank all the people who have engaged with the Panel's work, the Panel members, and the excellent officers.

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

Introduction

The Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel (the Panel) is one of five scrutiny panels working on behalf of the States Assembly to examine and investigate the work of the Government of Jersey. This is achieved through reviews of:

- Government policy
- New laws and changes to existing laws
- Work and expenditure of the Government
- Issues of public importance

This work is important in holding Ministers to account for their decisions and actions, helping to improve government policies, legislation and public services.

The Panel's remit covers the policy and legislation arising from the work of the Minister for Children and Families, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, and Minister for Justice and Home Affairs.

“There shall be - a scrutiny panel which is assigned the topics of children, young people, education and home affairs”
Standing Order 135(1)(c)

The Panel has reviewed and collated the work it has undertaken since its establishment by the States in July 2022, in order to assist its successor Panel in the next political term.

This report sets out:

- The work undertaken by the Panel during the session 2022 - 2026;
- Methods of working used by the Panel; and,
- Suggestions for issues that a successor Panel may wish to consider in developing its work programme.

The Panel was the only one not to be reconstituted following the vote of no confidence and subsequent change of Government in early 2024, however, there have been changes to membership across the four-year period. The membership of the Panel can be reviewed in Appendix 1.

As detailed below the Panel has worked hard during this term to carry out sufficient scrutiny of items under its remit, we have:



Met over **260** times



Lodged **39** comment papers



Produced **5** reports, made **232** findings and **127** recommendations



Lodged **8** amendments to propositions,
7 adopted and 1 withdrawn



Conducted **60** public hearings

Review output / work undertaken

Reports

The Panel has produced 5 reports in the period of 2022 - 2026:

Scrutiny Report Number	Topic	Number of Findings	Recommendations			
			Total	Accepted	Neither/ partially accepted/ acknowledged	Rejected
S.R.21/2022	Government Plan 2023-2026 Review: Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel	37	18	16	2	0
S.R.2/2024	Review of the Children and Civil Status (Amendments) (Jersey) Law 202-	25	7	5	0	2
S.R.10/2024	Secondary Education Funding	29	24	10	8	6
S.R.4/2025	What protection do children in Jersey have from online harms?	63	38	13	22	3
S.R.3/2026	Lifelong Learning	33	20	0	7	13
Totals		187	107	44	39	24

Comments

The Panel has produced 39 Comments in the period of 2022 - 2026:

Date	Subject
2022	
24 th August 2022	Draft Marriage and Civil Partnership (Amendment) (Jersey) Law 202-: comments [P.88/2022(Com)] (proposition subsequently withdrawn)
3 rd November 2022	Draft Children and Young People (Amendment) (Jersey) Law (P.96/2022): comments
6 th December 2022	Draft Criminal Justice (Deferred Prosecution Agreements) (Jersey) Law 202- (P.103/2022): comments
2023	
12 th January 2023	Draft Marriage and Civil Partnership (Amendments) (Jersey) Law 202- (P.112/2022): comments
27 th April 2023	Draft Commissioner for Children and Young People (Amendment of Law) (Jersey) Regulations 202- (P.12/2023): comments
6 th December 2023	Proposed Government Plan 2024-2027 (P.72/2023): comments
2024	
12 th January 2024	Draft Crime (Public Order) (Jersey) Law 202- (P.97/2023): comments
15 th March 2024	Draft Children and Young People (Jersey) Commencement Act 202- (P.2/2024) - comments
20 th June 2024	Draft Mental Health (Young Offenders) Law (Jersey) Amendment Regulations 202- (P.40/2024): Comments
25 th September 2024	Nationality Acts: Extension to Jersey. (P.55/2024) – comments
8 th October 2024	Draft Family Division Registrar (Change of Status and Title) (Jersey) Law 202- (P.56/2024): Comments
22 nd November 2024	Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2025-2028 (P.51/2024) – comments.(3)
2025	
29 th January 2025	Draft Children And Young People (Independent Advocates) (Jersey) Regulations 202- (P.87/2024): comments
31 st January 2025	Draft Children and Civil Status (Consequential Amendments) (Jersey) Amendment Regulations 202- (P.89/2024): comments

21 st February 2025	Draft Crime (Public Order) (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (P.8/2024): comments
30 th June 2025	Draft Children And Young People (Place of Police Detention) (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (P.40/2025): comments
30 th June 2025	Draft Criminal Justice (Young Offenders) (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (P.43/2025): comments
2 nd July 2025	Draft Civil Status (Abolition of Legitimacy etc.) (Jersey) Law 202- (P.44/2025): comments
3 rd September 2025	Draft Children and Civil Status (Consequential Amendments) (Jersey) Amendment No. 2 Regulations 202- (P.55/2025): comments
3 rd September 2025	Extension of Section 75 (Electronic Travel Authorisations) of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 to Jersey (P.58/2025): comments
18 th November 2025	Draft Children (Convention Rights) (Jersey) Commencement No. 2 Act 202- (P.88/2025): comments
20 th November 2025	Draft Police (Complaints and Conduct) (Jersey) Amendment Regulations 202- (P.81/2025): comments
20 th November 2025	Draft Police (Complaints and Conduct – States of Jersey Police Force) Regulations 202- (P.82/2025): comments
20 th November 2025	Draft Police (Complaints and Conduct – Honorary Police) (Jersey) Regulations 202- (P.83/2025): comments
20 th November 2025	Draft Police (Complaints and Conduct) (Jersey) Commencement Act 202- (P.84/2025): comments
21 st November 2025	Draft Marriage and Civil Partnership (Dissolution and Separation) (Jersey) Law 202- (P.85/2025): comments
25 th November 2025	Draft Children and Civil Status (Parental Responsibility) (Jersey) Amendment Regulations 202- (P.105/2025): comments
4 th December 2025	Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029 (P.70/2025): comments
2026	
13 th January 2026	Draft Jersey Gas Company Amendment Law 202- (P.91/2025): comments
19 th January 2026	Draft Criminal Justice (Young Offenders) (Jersey) Amendment No. 2 Law 202- (P.110/2025): comments

30 th January 2026	<u>Draft Fire Safety (Tall Residential Buildings) (Jersey) Regulations 202- (P.120/2025): comments</u>
18 th February 2026	<u>Draft Marriage and Civil Partnership (Dissolution and Separation) (Jersey) Law 202- (P.85/2025): comments</u>
9 th March 2026	<u>Draft Sexual Offences (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (P.5/2026): comments</u>
9 th March 2026	<u>Draft Harassment and Stalking (Jersey) Law 202- (P.6/2026): comments</u>
9 th March 2026	<u>Draft Domestic Abuse (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (P.7/2026): comments</u>
9 th March 2026	<u>Draft Crime (Strangulation) (Jersey) Law 202- (P.8/2026): comments</u>
9 th March 2026	<u>Draft Crime (Public Order) (Jersey) Amendment Law 202-(P.9/2026): comments</u>
18 th March 2026	<u>The Care Experienced Fund (P.30/2026): comments</u>
19 th March 2026	<u>Draft Criminal Justice (Procedures) (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (P.38/2026): comments</u>

Amendments and Propositions

Date of Hansard debate	Amendment	Assembly decision
22 nd November 2022	Common Strategic Policy (P.98/2022): Third Amendment	
12 th December 2023	Proposed Government Plan 2024-2027 (P.72/2023): twenty-first amendment. Le Rocquier School and Community Sports Facilities	
12 th December 2023	Proposed Government Plan 2024-2027 (P.72/2023): twenty-fourth amendment. Expanding Early Years nursery provision and childcare support	
21 st May 2024	Common Strategic Policy 2024-2026 (P.21/2024): fourth amendment	
26 th November 2024	Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2025-2028 (P.51/2024): fifth amendment. Apprenticeship Support	
Withdrawn	Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2025-2028 (P.51/2024): fifteenth amendment. Highlands College repairs	
9 th December 2025	Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029 (P.70/2025): twentieth amendment. Teaching Jèrriais	
9 th December 2025	Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2026-2029 (P.70/2025): twenty-third amendment. Increased Police funding	

Other methods of working

Quarterly Hearings

The Panel conducts public hearings with the Minister for Children and Families, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning and the Minister for Justice and Home Affairs on a quarterly basis, which provides the Panel the opportunity to ask questions in a public forum. Topics discussed cover all aspects of the Panels remit, ranging from ongoing policy to new legislation brought forward by Ministers and the Government of Jersey.

We note that at the start of the electoral term in 2022 the Panel conducted Scrutiny of two Government Ministers, namely: the Minister for Children and Education and Minister Home Affairs. The Minister for Home Affairs was renamed as the Minister for Justice and Home Affairs in May 2023 and the portfolio of the Minister for Children and Education was split into the Minister for Children and Families and Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning in February 2024.

The Panel has also conducted standalone public hearings on areas of particular topical interest, for example, a hearing focussed on Foster Carers in Jersey on 7th February 2025. The Panel has also held specific public hearings to gain evidence as part of its scrutiny reviews. These focussed on the topic of the review as defined by its Terms of Reference.

In total the Panel has held 37 quarterly public hearings. The Panel also held 23 other public hearings in relation to specific reviews, or standalone topics, over the course of the electoral term.

Letters

The Panel has sent over 65 letters over its term (excluding letters sent requesting targeted submissions for reviews). These included correspondence with Ministers, public bodies and stakeholders, allowing the Panel to pose questions and gain evidence during the course of its work.

Briefings

During its term the Panel has received numerous briefings from Ministers and Government Officers on matters relevant to its remit.

Briefings were often provided at the start of a review, to discuss ongoing policy and legislation development, or on one-off matters of importance.

Advisers

The Panel appointed an expert adviser, Professor Ellen Boeren, to assist with its review of Lifelong Learning. Professor Boeren was tasked with delivering two core strands of work: (1) providing an overview of the current provision of lifelong vocational learning in Jersey, and (2) undertaking a comparative analysis of lifelong vocational learning policies and apprenticeship systems across similar jurisdictions to identify examples of best practice. Her findings informed the Panel's understanding of international approaches and contextualised Jersey's position within broader vocational learning frameworks. The Expert Adviser's report is appended to the end of [S.R.3/2026](#).

The Panel also appointed Island Global Research to independently assess the survey results it received as part of its Secondary Education Funding review (published as [S.R.10/2024](#)) and their report can be seen appended to the Panel's final report.

Public engagement

The Panel is aware of the value of public engagement as part of the scrutiny process and has used various means to expand this process throughout the electoral term. This included broader calls for evidence during reviews, the use of social media, news releases and the commissioning of qualitative research to promote its work.

A couple of notable examples of public engagement undertaken by the Panel include the following:

- As part of the Panel's Review of Secondary Education Funding (published as [S.R.10/2024](#)) a survey was created for members of the public, to capture their views on secondary education in Jersey. In total 353 people responded to the survey and the Panel was pleased that it attracted this interest from the public.
- As part of the Panel's review 'What protection do children in Jersey have from online harms?' (published as [S.R.4/2025](#)) the Panel invited submissions from both targeted stakeholders and the general public and was pleased to receive 34 submissions to the review.

Visits

The Panel has undertaken a number of visits during its term of office, including the following:

- Houses of Parliament, Westminster, UK
- Ambulance Service Headquarters
- Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters
- States of Jersey Police Force Headquarters
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Jersey Sea Cadets
- Brighter Futures
- Jersey Customs and Immigration Service
- Jersey Probation and After-Care Service
- Office of the Children's Commissioner
- Greenfields Secure Home
- Jersey Prison Service
- Le Quesne Barracks (Jersey Field Squadron)
- Skills Jersey
- Highlands College
- Les Quennevais School
- Hautlieu School
- Victoria College
- Le Sente Primary School
- Mont à L'Abbé School
- Mont Nicolle school
- Springfield School
- Rouge Bouillon School

- St Luke's School
- Grouville School
- D'Auvergne School
- Trinity School
- Janvrin School
- Samarès School
- La Passerelle School
- Charlie Farley's Nursery
- Eden House, Short Breaks Home
- Oakwell, Short Breaks Home
- Le Squez Youth Club
- Future St Helier Youth Centre site, Ann Street
- Le Tour Egret, Le Marais, St Clement

Suggestions for future work

General Review topics

Online Harms

A major review by the Panel during the course of the 2022-2026 electoral term was ‘What protection do children in Jersey have from online harms?’ (published as [S.R.4/2025](#)) which made 63 findings and 38 recommendations to the Government of Jersey. The formal response from the Minister for Children and Families can be read in full [here](#).

Protection from online harms and the promotion of online safety are increasingly important policy areas that are likely to span multiple ministerial and scrutiny panel remits in the future. As an example, the Department for the Economy undertook a consultation in early 2026 on ‘Online harms: content removal’. Although digital economy work technically falls outside the Panel’s remit, the Panel considers it essential that future policy development in this area is child-centred and therefore encourages any future Panel to consider taking an interest in furtherance of the work, potentially together with the Economic and International Affairs Panel, as part of ongoing scrutiny.

The Minister for Children and Families is the Minister with formal responsibility and legal powers to coordinate policies to safeguard children and support their wellbeing. In the review the Panel recommended that the ministerial responsibility for online harms should be assigned to the Minister for Children and Families in recognition of the importance of safeguarding and child protection within this policy area and this was accepted by the Minister. The Council of Ministers also accepted the Panel’s recommendation to undertake and publish a comprehensive gap analysis of existing legislation addressing online harms, and we highlight to the next Panel that the target date for the completion of that action is December 2026.

As further context, the current Government has established a cross Ministerial group (chaired by the Minister for Children and Families), and an inter-departmental officer group to focus on areas which cross over between departments and remits. The continuation of this work will be for the next Government to decide upon; however, the Panel recommends that its successor queries this and takes an interest in the future direction.

The Panel also made a number of educational based recommendations as part of its review. In 2025 the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning supported schools to limit mobile phone use by students during the school day. In addition, the Department for Children, Young People, Education and Skills (CYPES) policies have been updated following the Panel’s review. A new online safety policy, *Digital Safeguarding and Technology*, was published on 24 November 2025, and the *Jersey Keeping Children Safe in Education* policy has been revised to incorporate this update and remove references to UK legislation. However, further work is still required in several areas. The Panel believes that ensuring consistency across schools will be important, as is the development of standardised teacher training, tailored approaches for students with additional needs, and sufficient funding for both educational technology and digital literacy initiatives. These are all areas the successor Panel could explore, if it is so minded.

One of the largest areas of concern for the Panel was around the lack of age-verification requirements for internet users of certain websites in Jersey, and the lack of Government plans to introduce this. This differs to the situation for users in the United Kingdom due to the

implementation of their Online Safety Act. The Panel believes that this is a key policy point for future exploration.

The Panel would recommend that its successor Panel continues to explore the variety of areas highlighted as part of its review.

Lifelong Learning

The Panel launched its review of Lifelong Learning in December 2025, as the topic was identified as a priority within the Common Strategic Policy (2024-2026). Given the short timeframe available to conduct the review, the Panel agreed to narrow the scope of the review to vocational lifelong learning, such as apprenticeships, continuing professional development, and adult reskilling, while recognising the wider importance of other lifelong learning pathways, including higher education, community-based learning and informal education. Throughout the review, several key issues emerged, including limited progression opportunities beyond Level 3, barriers to accessibility for learners, issues with the proposed changes to the curriculum (such as V Levels) and ongoing challenges linked to the Highlands College estate. As part of this work, the Panel identified 33 findings and made 20 recommendations, including undertaking a comprehensive review of lifelong learning, commissioning a feasibility study for a modern Highlands campus, and establishing a single online information point for vocational pathways. The Panel considers these recommendations essential to improving the visibility, accessibility and coordination of lifelong learning across the Island.

In their joint ministerial response, the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning and the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development highlighted that a number of the Panel's recommendations reflect work already underway, including the Investing in Jersey programme's planned new Highlands campus and the communications and outreach activities delivered by Skills Jersey. The response detailed that, because many of the proposed timelines would fall within the pre-election period starting on 20 April 2026, it would be inappropriate for the current Ministers to commit to delivering any actions at this stage.

The Ministers commented that the review's scope excludes higher education, thereby omitting a part of Jersey's lifelong learning landscape, including higher-level apprenticeships that support adult retraining and progression. They nevertheless welcomed the Panel's broader observations, particularly on gender disparities, inclusion and barriers faced by different groups, which they consider valuable insights that will inform future priorities for the next Government term. As such, the Panel would recommend that the next Panel revisits the recommendations arising from this review and conducts a short follow up exercise to assess the extent to which meaningful implementation has taken place. Looking ahead, the Panel recognises significant scope for future work for the next Panel within the lifelong learning area such as vocational learning in schools, learning infrastructure, opportunities for reskilling and upskilling, and wider forms of lifelong learning beyond the vocational sphere.

While a significant number of the Panel's recommendations were rejected, the Panel remains of the view that they were important and of value and should therefore be considered further in the future. In response to the joint Ministerial Response, the Panel wrote to the Ministers on 13 April 2026 to request further clarification on a number of aspects of the Ministerial

Response, in order to better understand the Ministers' position and the rationale underpinning their conclusions. In reviewing the Ministerial Response, the Panel identified a number of substantive issues, including instances where the intent of recommendations appeared to be misunderstood, stakeholder evidence was not fully reflected, or statements lacked sufficient clarity or transparency. In particular, the Panel continues to have concerns regarding the absence of a clearly identifiable central information point, the position of sole traders within the Better Business Support Package, the limited scope of proposed research, and the rejection of proposals relating to modular learning and delivery timelines. Overall, these issues reinforce the Panel's view that lifelong learning and apprenticeships are of critical importance to Jersey's future skills base and that the recommendations continue to merit serious consideration as part of the Island's long-term plans.

Furthermore, as the Panel did not include aspects such as Student Finance as part of its review, this is an area which may also benefit from further examination, if a future Panel is minded to do so.

New Common Strategic Policy and Government Budget (Government Plan)

As required under the States of Jersey Law 2005, the new Council of Ministers must lodge a statement of its Common Strategic Policy (CSP) within four months of its appointment, alongside its first Government Plan (the Government Budget). In an election year, the lodging period for the Budget is reduced to 10 weeks. As a result, the Panel may have a limited amount of time in which to examine these documents. Nonetheless, both the CSP and the Budget will provide important insight into the direction of the Government's policy priorities and intended legislative programme.

One of the Panel's areas of focus during its scrutiny of the Government Budget concerned the funding allocated to the States of Jersey Police Force, particularly in relation to Community Police Officers and, also, the Digital Forensics team. To secure additional investment in these areas, the Panel lodged Amendment 23 to the 2026–2029 Government Budget, which successfully resulted in further prioritised funding.

Funding for nursery and childcare provision

The Government's [Common Strategic Policy](#) for the period 2024 – 2026 included a priority delivery area of "extending nursery and childcare provision". The Government sought to deliver this through the subsequent Government Budgets:

- The [Budget for 2025 – 2028](#) included revenue expenditure growth of £11.927 million (across the 4 years of the Budget) to begin to deliver a phased introduction of nursery and childcare provision to children aged 2-3 years with additional needs, supporting staff training, fund a pilot scheme to increase unused space in primary school nurseries and reviewing nursery capacity in St. Helier.
- The [Budget for 2026–2029](#) included additional revenue funding of £9.596 million (across the 4 years of the Budget) to build on the existing funding, in order to extend the provision of term-time nursery funding for 2–3-year-olds into a universal offer, which also includes care provided by registered childminders.

The universal element of the scheme is still in its early stages in 2026 and currently operates differently from the existing Nursery Education Fund scheme for 3–4-year-olds, as parents and carers are required to pay for hours upfront and then apply to reclaim the funding from the Government. It remains unclear whether the universal scheme for 2–3-year-olds has increased access for a wider cohort of children and families, subject to the availability of places.

The Panel considers that, given the significant public funding allocated to this area up to 2029, alongside the high level of public interest and the wider implications for Islanders' cost of living, it is likely to be an important topic for future examination, should the next Panel wish to pursue it.

Investment in Children's Services

The Government of Jersey has made significant financial investments into Children's Services since 2020, including:

- Government Budget 2026 – 2029, increased revenue expenditure growth into the Children's Services Improvement Programme: £32.533 million over 4 years, and capital expenditure for the 'Loving Homes Estate' project: £11.97 million over the 4-year Budget period;
- Government Plan 2024 - 2027, the project for Children's Social Care Reform – new homes: £6.8 million across 4 years.
- Government Plan 2023 – 2026, 2 projects: Children's Social Care Reform: £26.22 million over 4 years and Social worker recruitment and retention: £4.5 million over 4 years; and
- Government Plan 2020 – 2023, 2 projects: Children's Change Programme: £6.19 million over 4 years and the Independent Care Inquiry: £6.48 million over 4 years.

As such, the Panel would suggest that the development of these programmes and projects, particularly those supported by the 2026 – 2029 Budget are areas of focus for questions to the Minister for Children and Families.

Additionally, throughout the past term the Panel has also been interested in the work to encourage more foster carers in Jersey but has heard about various challenges in relation to this. The Panel held a standalone topical hearing about Foster Care in Jersey on 7th February 2025.

Youth Justice

The Panel believes that further examination of Youth Justice in Jersey may be an area in which its successor may want to consider for review. The Government of Jersey published The Youth Justice Roadmap: *'Reimagining Youth Justice: A Child First Roadmap for Jersey'* (2025-2030) "Empowering Change: A Child-First Approach to restorative youth justice in Jersey" [\[R.105/2025\]](#) in June 2025. It has an outcomes-based approach that is intended to align with the Building a Safer Community Framework and the Children, Young People and Families' Plan 2024-2027.

Furthermore, as part of the investment of Children's Services referenced above, the 'Loving Homes Estate' project includes funding of £5.835 million (over the period 2026 – 2029) for 'Specialist Care' which refers to facilities at Greenfields Secure Children's Home, which is used as a home for children requiring secure accommodation for both welfare and justice

requirements. An inherent jurisdiction unit will be created at Greenfields in 2026, and another building will be adapted for educational purposes with funding in later years.

Leadership structure in Education

In March 2026, the Government announced changes to the leadership structure of Jersey's education system through the introduction of a new school partnership model. Under this model, non-fee-paying schools (excluding Hautlieu, special schools, and Highlands College) will be grouped into one of four partnerships. Each partnership will be led by a newly appointed Partnership Lead, drawn from Jersey's headteachers.

The purpose of the new structure is to respond to changing demographics, increasing financial pressures, and rising demand for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) support. The model will initially operate as a two-year trial before any decision is made to implement it permanently.

Given the scale of this change for the Department, and the likelihood that it will influence future educational policy, any successor Panel may wish to review the effectiveness and outcomes of the new arrangements once they have been in place for a reasonable period.

CYPES Estates

There are some significant capital projects planned for CYPES, however, it remains unclear how these will align with the scope of the Jersey Capital Investment Fund and future capital development plans. Future projects include:

- Development of Mont à l'Abbé Secondary school: to expand the capacity of the school to 200 pupils. Funding approved in the Budget for 2026 was to progress feasibility and indicative design, working towards the approval of planning permission in mid-2027. However, it was noted that this project had the potential to be accelerated, depending on the status of other projects in the wider Government capital programme.
- New Town School at Gas Place: to replace the existing schools at Springfield, St. Lukes with a modern, purpose-built facility with more outdoor space.
- Highlands College: as part of discussions around the Jersey Capital Investment Fund, potential changes and the future location of Highlands College have been suggested, however, there is no confirmed plans or clarity on this future yet. The Panel has been concerned with the accessibility and maintenance of the current site and brought an [Amendment](#) (number 15) to the Government Budget 2025-2028 to ensure maintenance was prioritised.

The Panel would recommend that its successor Panel continues to explore these areas in detail, especially within the upcoming iteration of the Government Budget 2027 – 2030.

Capital projects for Justice and Home Affairs

There are several longstanding capital projects within the Justice and Home Affairs Department and, as with the CYPES Estates projects, it remains unclear how these will align with the scope of the Jersey Capital Investment Fund and future capital development plans.

By way of example, the Panel notes the following Justice and Home Affairs projects:

- The Fire and Ambulance Headquarters will no longer proceed as a joint development. During the most recent Budget review, the Panel was advised that a revised feasibility

study for separate facilities had been completed; however, this was not presented to Ministers in time for consideration within the 2026–2029 Budget.

- The Army and Sea Cadet Headquarters project was significantly reduced in scope in the last Government Budget, following several years of deferral. The future location for the Sea Cadets remains unconfirmed.
- Further development is anticipated at the Prison, although the planned phasing has been amended due to reprioritisation.

Any future Panel may wish to explore these areas further as part of future Budget reviews.

Funding to support the Violence Against Women and Girls Legislation

The Panel has taken an interest in the Government's response to the Violence Against Women and Girls Taskforce report in November 2023 and, subsequently, held a standalone topic hearing on the subject in July 2025.

In March 2026 the States Assembly approved the following legislation:

- (i) Draft Harassment and Stalking (Jersey) Law 202-
- (ii) Draft Domestic Abuse (Jersey) Amendment Law 202-
- (iii) Draft Sexual Offences (Jersey) Amendment Law 202-
- (iv) Draft Crime (Public Order) (Jersey) Amendment Law No.2 Law 202-
- (v) Draft Crime (Strangulation) (Jersey) Law 202-

As an overarching observation across all the propositions, the Panel was supportive of the draft laws and the manner in which they sought to address the recommendations of the Violence Against Women and Girls Taskforce (2023). However, the Panel noted that the funding required to implement these laws effectively across the criminal justice system had not yet been resolved, and it was acknowledged that additional Government resources would be necessary.

In March 2026, the Minister for Justice and Home Affairs confirmed that financial analysis had been undertaken and that the Government intends to introduce a demand-led funding model, with additional revenue expenditure to be included in the next Government Budget for 2027–2030. Estimates presented to the States Assembly during the debate ranged from £11.26 million to £27.031 million over the four-year period. The Panel also considers that further work is required to understand how the resourcing of these laws will align with the Island's wider Criminal Justice Policy. It therefore recommends that its successor Panel examines this in detail, particularly in the context of the forthcoming Government Budget 2027–2030.

Work Permit Policy

The Panel held a standalone hearing on 16th October 2025 to further its understanding of recent changes to the work permit policy and the rising demand for work permits, which has increased significantly since Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic. This work was intended to follow up on the findings of the Work Permit Holder Welfare Review Panel, which published its report in October 2023.

The Panel considers this an area that will continue to require examination, particularly in relation to joint working between the Jersey Customs and Immigration Service, the Environment Department, and the International Cultural Centre.

Jersey Play Plan 2025 - 2028

The Government published the [Jersey Play Plan 2025–2028](#) on 18th December 2025, following calls for the development of a dedicated Play Strategy. The Plan sets out five priority areas, each supported by actions to progress its delivery, which will be overseen by the Play Plan Delivery Group.

The Panel notes that aspects of this work align with efforts to provide alternative activities for children and young people, offering options that reduce reliance on technology and support wider health and wellbeing benefits for children, young people, and families. However, the Plan currently has no approved funding, which has been a concern for the Panel and it suggests that this may be a suitable area for consideration in future.

Teaching the language of Jèrriais

In 2025, the Panel lodged Amendment No. 20 to the 2026–2029 Budget, proposing that the funding of £670,000 for promoting and teaching the Jèrriais language be ringfenced and that further work be undertaken to develop and renew the Jèrriais language strategy. The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning subsequently amended the proposal so that the ringfenced funding applied to 2026 only. The amended Amendment was adopted, securing protected funding for that year. However, the Panel is mindful that the longer-term future of, and strategic planning for, Jèrriais language teaching has not yet been confirmed. As such, this may be an area that the next Panel may wish to explore further, potentially when examining the 2027 – 2030 Budget.

As additional context, the Panel notes that this topic potentially overlaps with the remit of the Economic and International Affairs Panel. The Minister for Sustainable Economic Development has confirmed that an updated Jèrriais strategy is currently being developed (the previous strategy expired at the end of 2025). Nonetheless, responsibility for funding language teaching lies with the CYPES Department.

Updates to the Education (Jersey) Law 1999

It is the Panel's understanding that a review of the Education Law was considered by the Government of Jersey prior to the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 following reviews such as the Big Education Conversation and the Independent School Funding Review. The Government has not progressed with a review of the law and there have subsequently been further educational reviews, such as the Independent Review of Inclusive Education and Early Years 2021, and the Island Special Needs and Disabilities (SEND) review (published October 2025).

As this legislation has long been identified for potential revision, it may be beneficial for a future Panel to establish whether there is an intention from the next Government to undertake work as part of its future legislative programme.

Forthcoming legislation

Fire Precautions Law

When reviewing the Draft Fire Safety (Tall Residential Buildings) (Jersey) Regulations 202– (lodged as [P.120/2025](#)), the Panel was advised that work was underway to replace Jersey’s primary fire safety law, namely, the Fire Precautions (Jersey) Law 1977, with a more modern law. In early 2026 the Panel was advised that this was expected to come to the Assembly in 1-2 years’ time.

The Panel is aware that the following items were listed in the Government’s legislation development pool in 2025, however, have not progressed (and the Panel has not received any briefings):

- Inquests and Post-Mortem Examinations (Jersey) Law 1995
- Marriage and Civil Status (Jersey) Law 2001
- Review of Day Care of Children (Jersey) Law 2002
- Unlawful Events Regulations

Appendix 1

Panel Membership



Deputy Catherine
Curtis (Chair)



Connétable Mark
Labey (Vice-Chair)



Deputy Helen Miles -
Appointed to Panel
on 17th July 2024



Deputy Beatriz Porée –
Resigned Panel
membership 21st
October 2025



Connétable Marcus
Troy - Panel Member
12th September 2023 –
3rd January 2024

