## WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING BY DEPUTY I. GARDINER OF ST. HELIER NORTH QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 24th MARCH 2025 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 31st MARCH 2025

## Question

"Further to the adoption of the <u>Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2025-2028 (P.51/2024): Fifth</u> <u>Amendment</u>, which incorporated the requirement to review the scheme available for apprenticeships and increase the funding and support available, will the Minister advise what plans are in place for such a review in 2025, whether increased individual funding is now available, and whether further increases are planned for September 2025?"

## Answer

I can confirm that officers have started a review of the current apprenticeship system. The intent is to move to a scheme that is demand led, with a tuition grant available to those who meet a published criterion. Inflation protection for grants will also be considered with an appropriate rate against which grants can be adjusted in the future.

The review process will be completed this year and focus on:

- Understanding experience of current 16 plus students
- Engaging apprenticeship providers in identifying real cost of providing apprenticeships
- Consulting industry representatives to develop a criteria for a future apprenticeship scheme
- Confirming an appropriate legislative mechanism to support the scheme and entitlement

I will be working closely with Council of Ministers to consider additional funding requirements through the government budget process 2025. Successful implementation of a revised scheme for 2026 will be contingent on approval by the Assembly to increase expenditure.