

Minister for Education



19-21 Broad Street | St Helier
Jersey | JE2 4RR

Deputy Rob Ward
Chairman, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Scrutiny Office
States Greffe
Morier House
St Helier
JE1 1DD

17 October 2019

Dear Deputy Ward,

Government Plan

Thank you for the Panel's request of 14th October 2019 requesting further information on the Government Plan. The answers to your questions are listed below:

Skills Jersey (P.68 R.91/2019)

What are the expected outcomes of introducing the new roles?

Project Management of all bids, reviews, and strategies that go through Skills and oversight into the bigger picture of how these relate to Education and broader government as a whole. This recently involves the complex higher education funding model, the post 16 review and the NEET strategy.

Engage with more adults in 1:1 guidance offering CV, personal statement and interview workshops for groups at risk of redundancy. New client sectors include those with health difficulties, i.e. Macmillan and those who are nearing retirement or have retired and are looking for a new chapter. Outcome = more people who are aware of their options and skill sets and better prepared for the work that goes into finding that perfect role. Also, retirees with a wealth of knowledge are not lost to the system and could be harnessed in a different way and still potentially economically productive in some way; provide support and intervention for people at risk of redundancy at this vulnerable time.

Engage with all schools at year 11, 12 and 13 for wider access to impartial advice and guidance at these important decision points, and importantly provide the option of follow up sessions for students who are unsure of their next steps or just need more advice. Outcome = reduction in number of students being unclear about their options leads to greater personal potential and an understanding of all options, therefore, increasing choice.

Offer a range of workshops to schools at differing age groups on issues such as decision making, entrepreneurial skills, job searching techniques and choosing your GCSEs. Outcome = better outcomes for students in the long run and better team working and collaboration all skills that employers are looking for.

Parent sessions regarding skills/careers options. Outcome = parents are the biggest influencers in children's lives, if we can get them to understand different industry sectors and opportunities, they are less likely to dissuade their children and hope would be more open to a range of options.

More apprentices will be able to be taken onto the Trackers scheme. Outcome = more islanders will achieve at least a level 3 qualification and Jersey will continue to develop home grown talent with mentor support to guide them through the what they are looking to achieve.

Mentor specific students as directed by schools due to them actually disengaging or being at risk of disengaging. Outcome = increased aspiration and engagement and importantly a reduction in students becoming NEET.

Research different apprenticeship and work experience areas. Outcome = broaden choice for individuals and for employers who currently have no succession plans due to the nature of their business or the understanding of the area.

Research skills gaps areas and future skills/jobs. Outcomes = increase quality of Labour Market Information, support better planning across government and industry and targeting of future skills work needed or skills gap areas.

More employers and industry areas engaged with schools. Outcome = students are better informed on pathways and career opportunities and students have a better practical understanding of the world of work and what certain industries need.

More employers engaged in workplace visits, either for groups or individuals, both primary and secondary. Outcome = increase in student aspiration and a greater understanding of the practical application of skills learned in the classroom. In the longer term a greater understanding for the development of the curriculum, that could be aligned to the economic needs of the island if necessary.

Look at using industry specific mentors to engage with both students and teachers. Outcome = teachers would have a better practical understanding of the curriculum with real life examples that students can visualise. Students could have a positive role model who encourages them to broaden their views and challenge them to think.

Returnships for career returners and work experience for adults look to change careers. Outcome = open up possibilities for adults and given them the option to try different skills and the confidence to apply for jobs. From an employer's point of view it gives them the opportunity to start a relationship early.

Primary Schools Meals Feasibility Pilot (p.28 R.91/2019)

Where will the meals be cooked – in the schools themselves or at an outside facility?

The meals will be cooked in an outside facility.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jmaçon". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Deputy Jeremy Maçon
Assistant Minister for Education

D +44 (0)1534 448394

E j.macon@gov.ie