

2019.10.22

3 Deputy J.H. Perchard of St. Saviour of the Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture regarding the provision of facilities for the Jersey Netball Association: (OQ.250/2019)

Further to Written Question 165/2019, will the Minister advise when he anticipates that adequate facilities will be provided for the Jersey Netball Association, especially given that they will now have nowhere to train from April 2020?

Senator L.J. Farnham (The Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture):

Senator Pallett will respond to this question.

Senator S.W. Pallett (Assistant Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture - *rapporteur*):

Can I first thank the Deputy for the question? I had the opportunity, yesterday, to update Deputy Perchard at a Scrutiny Hearing, but I think for the benefit of all Members here today, clearly it is disappointing that the Jersey Netball Association have lost their prime facility in St. Brelade. But I think adequate facilities can be provided for the Jersey Netball Association. It is not accurate to suggest that they will have nowhere to train in March 2020. I just want to explain briefly. There are currently 7 indoor and 9 outdoor courts that are provided by the Sports Division. I am aware that there are 3 new courts going to be provided at the new Les Quennevais School and within those courts I have just described that does not include any of the capacity that is available within schools, any of the secondary schools, or primary schools. So, although they may have to change the way they operate to some degree, I have got no doubt that there is capacity within our current sports provision to provide courts for the Jersey Netball Association.

3.3.1 Deputy J.H. Perchard:

What is the Minister's view on providing financial assistance, or resources, to private sporting organisations? When does he deem it appropriate to do so?

Senator S.W. Pallett:

Again, I answered this for the Deputy yesterday. I do not think it is appropriate that the States, or Government, support individual clubs. I think there are times when there is a need to support on a case-by-case basis. Sports that find themselves in difficulty, but in terms of the day-to-day running of clubs, Government has never supported clubs in that way and I do not think they should.

Deputy J.H. Perchard:

I would like to thank the Senator for his time yesterday and for sharing his answers with the wider Assembly today.