

STATES OF JERSEY

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YOUTH CUSTODY FOR PERSONS AGED 12 AND OVER (P.2/2004): COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 23rd March 2004
by the Finance and Economics Committee**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Finance and Economics Committee is concerned that the assumptions of no additional financial and manpower implications contained in the Deputy's report are not supported by the Home Affairs Committee.

The Deputy qualifies this statement on the basis that Greenfields does not become oversubscribed; however, the recent sharp increase in the Prison population demonstrates that the executive is obliged to respond to the use of custodial sentences and, if necessary, provide additional capital, revenue and manpower resources. Should demand for secure facilities at Greenfields exceed the accommodation available, there can be no guarantee that additional resources would not need to be found.

The current facilities provided at Greenfields are not capable of housing 10 youths in custody without further, as yet unquantified, capital expenditure. It would be irrational to utilise available capital funding to meet the demands of this proposition in isolation without considering and prioritising the overall needs of the Children's Executive on the Greenfields site.

The Committee believes that the Deputy's proposition should be directed to the Children's Executive for consideration. Any proposals should be consolidated within the Home Affairs Committee's ongoing review of Criminal Justice Policy and must contain a full assessment of any additional capital, revenue and manpower resource requirements.