

STATES OF JERSEY



CHILD CARE SCHEME FOR LOW INCOME FAMILIES: AMENDMENTS (P.173/2004) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 23rd November 2004
by the Policy and Resources Committee**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Policy and Resources Committee notes that the subject of early years provision is currently being actively considered by the Education, Sport and Culture Committee. Members will be aware that that Committee recently issued a consultation document on 'A Vision for the Future of Early Education and Childcare in Jersey' (R.C.35/2004), and will be coming forward to the States early in 2005 with proposals in this area. In addition, the Employment and Social Security Committee is undertaking a review of its benefit schemes, and in this connection it has just published its report on an 'Income Support System' (R.C.48/2004). As part of this review, the Employment and Social Security Committee is considering the provision of support in respect of dependents, including children.

The Policy and Resources Committee believes that any measures to improve child care provision should be considered as part of an integrated strategy, and it would therefore be premature for the States to take a decision on such an important matter, with such major financial implications, before the reviews currently being undertaken by the Education, Sport and Culture and Employment and Social Security Committees have been completed.

The Committee accordingly opposes this proposition.