

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND EDUCATION  
BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER  
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 24<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2022  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2022**

**Question**

“Will the Minister explain to Members –

- (a) what research, if any, his department has carried out into child poverty in the Island, setting out when the research was undertaken, what international standards of measurement were used, the details of the findings and links to all and any reports generated; and
- (b) if the department has not carried out any research into this area, why not, and whether there is an intention to rectify this?”

**Answer**

- (a) The Children, Young People, Education and Skills (CYPES) department have not carried out any specific research into child poverty.
- (b) Child poverty is a socioeconomic issue that crosses the boundaries of all Government Departments.

Although there is a gap in specific research regarding poverty and children, the broader socioeconomic conditions that effect children and adults are a regular feature in work carried out by CYPES, Customer and Local Services, Strategic Policy, Performance and Planning, Health and Community Services and other departments. Examples of work including the Jersey Premium, access to primary school meals service, access to affordable fruit and veg etc.

The most recent relevant analysis from Statistics Jersey would be:

The latest Income Distribution report (2014/15):

[R Income Distribution Survey Report 2014-15 20151112 SU.pdf \(gov.je\)](#)

On page 16 – there are estimates for the number of children living in relative low income. This will be updated following the results of the latest Living Costs and Household Income Survey.

The latest Children and Young Persons Survey (CYPS) (2019):

[R Jersey Children and Young People's Survey 20200811 SJ.pdf \(gov.je\)](#)

This contains various indicators, the main one is “lack of material belongings” which is on page 15.

Statistics Jersey will be publishing the latest CYPS results in March 2022 and the Government has started work on an overarching Poverty Strategy.