

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND EDUCATION
BY DEPUTY R.J. WARD OF ST. HELIER CENTRAL
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 3rd APRIL 2023
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON WEDNESDAY 12th APRIL 2023**

Question

“Will the Minister advise how much of the £1.6 million for school meals provision is projected to be spent in 2023, and if there is an underspend, what will happen to this money?”

Answer

The project remains in the detailed policy, design and logistical planning phase. A preferred option for progression has been established and the department is in the process of documenting this in a final business case, that builds upon the initial business case submitted to the Government Plan 2023 process. This will then enable the £1.6 million, currently agreed in principle and held in reserves, to be drawn down and ‘allocated’ to the department to progress along the cost intensive execution phase of the delivery timetable.

This delivery timetable is set to commence from September, with the Autumn term effectively actioned as a pilot.

It is not possible to provide an estimated cost whilst the detailed policy, design and logistical planning work are still underway. Any in year underspends will be returned to central treasury reserves, whilst subsequent year’s funding is expected to reach £1.6 million once the rollout has been completed.