

STATES OF JERSEY



SCHOOL MILK: PROVISION FOR THE YEARS 2003, 2004 AND 2005 (P.7/2003) - COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 18th February 2003
by the Economic Development Committee**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Economic Development Committee (EDC) is of the view that the provision of free school milk is not a core function of the EDC.

Whether or not there is a health benefit from the provision of school milk is not, directly, an economic issue. The EDC does not see any economic argument to maintain the provision of free school milk.

The provision of direct financial aid to dairy farmers is a core function of the EDC and this issue is being addressed through the Strategic Review of the Dairy Industry commissioned by the previous Agriculture and Fisheries Committee. The Report produced by Professor Donald McQueen was received by the Committee on 11th February and was published on 17th February for consultation. The EDC will use that Report and the consultation thereon to decide what level of direct aid to the dairy industry is justified.

The EDC does not support Deputy Southern's proposal that funds for the provision of free school milk should be inscribed in the budget of the EDC.