

Mario Lundy
Assistant Director – Schools and
Colleges

Early Years Strategy Update

Background

- Report of the Working Party on Childcare; 'A Vision for the Future of Early Education and Child Care' (Spratt, J.)
- Investing in Our Future : A Vision for Early Childhood Education and Care in Jersey (R.C. 54);
- 'Early Childhood Education and Care - Report to the Council of Ministers' (DFESC).

Working Party on Child Care

- formation of Jersey Child Care Trust;
- financial support for child care;
- support for the policy to provide nursery classes at non-fee paying schools.

Spratt Report

‘ Whilst there is a clear strategy for Early Years Education in Jersey there is no overall States strategy for integrated early education and childcare’.

(J. Spratt 2004)

Issues

- **affordability;**
- **equity;**
- **access;**
- **family policy.**

Investing in Our Future

By 2008

- there would be more coherent family policy based on clear values which recognise that the States needs to actively support parents in the interests of child development;
- all 3 and 4 year olds would have access to affordable, high quality early education and care.

Council of Ministers - 2006

To

' develop an Early Years Strategy for the 0-5 age range by the end of 2006.'

States
of Jersey 

David Greenwood
Assistant Director – Culture and
Lifelong Learning

Meeting the Island's employment
requirements through education

The Challenge

- only 11% of graduates in the workforce (16% in UK);
- 34% of workforce without qualifications;
- 20% reporting need for literacy or numeracy support;
- no natural resources;
- the raw material for success is the skill and motivation of our people.

Background Information

Achievements

	Jersey	UK
GCSE A-C pass rate	68%	57%
Post 16 staying on rate	89%	76.5%
A level A-C pass rate	83%	71%
Entering University	44%	38.4%

Implications

At 16	Better GCSE results only 70-80 will seek employment
At 18	Better advanced results – only 300-400 will seek employment
At 21	500 students will obtain a degree (125 – 160 will return immediately – 150 more within 10 years)

- our young people achieve more – employers have fewer candidates and have to dig deeper into the pool of available labour;
- employers have to attract young people who have greater life choices than similar UK students;
- at a time when backroom jobs – the nursery slopes of employment have gone.

Meeting the challenge

Changes to the 14-19 curriculum

- smaller core curriculum – greater choice of what, where and how to learn;
- emphasis on English, maths, ICT, science – available to all to 18 years age;
- vocational options for all 14 year olds;
- expanded apprenticeship scheme;
- clear linkage between the classroom and workplace;
- challenge for the most able – progress according to ‘stage’ not ‘age’;
- emphasis on critical skills and enterprise education;
- review of Careers Education and Guidance.

Meeting the challenge – adult skills

Skills for life

- increased emphasis on literacy and numeracy in schools and colleges;
- outreach work with adults – currently 350 enrolled;
- Higher Education and professional development;
- development of strategically important courses in-Island
 - finance
 - law
 - ICT
- closer relationship with Open University;
- development of an International Business School;
- co-ordination of provision through the Jersey Academy.

Key Issues

How best to forge the link and develop a real dialogue with a very diverse business community?

Costs

14-19 development

£2m in capital

Adult learning and

£1m in revenue

In-Island provision

£1m (already agreed)

States 
of Jersey

Tom McKeon
Director of Education, Sport and
Culture
Higher Education Funding

Aspirations and Vision for Higher Education

A Balance:

- enabling individuals to fulfil their potential
- maintaining a strong, successful, sustainable economy;
- economic growth through high value-added activities requiring high skills
- opportunities for learning – an investment not a cost.

Achievements that are a cause for celebration

- educational achievement leading to high participation rates post-16 and in Higher Education;
- recognition that our future success is in developing our human capital;
- importance of Higher Education is generally recognised throughout advanced and developing economies.

Challenges

- change in the nature and volume of Higher Education participation;
- requirement for increased investment;
- squaring the circle of increasing funding requirements without compromising access or distorting choice.

Drivers for Change

- significant changes in UK Higher Education funding with effective removal of grant aid and introduction of fees;
- high and increasing participation in Higher Education by Jersey students.

Process

- details of options set out in consultation document;
- consultation on possible future arrangements;
- analysis of outcomes considered by Ministers for Education, Sport and Culture and Treasury and Resources;
- proposals to be brought forward by Minister for Education, Sport and Culture in November.

Postscript

- additional funding requirement in the medium-term £3 – 4 million;
- is only one of the financial implications presented this evening.