
STATES OF JERSEY



SCRUTINY REVIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT PLAN: 2021- 2024 - CHILDREN'S, EDUCATION AND HOME AFFAIRS PANEL (S.R.11/2020): JOINT MINISTERIAL RESPONSE

Presented to the States on 12th February 2021
by the Minister for Home Affairs

STATES GREFFE

**SCRUTINY REVIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT PLAN 2021- 2024
(S.R.11/2020): JOINT MINISTERIAL RESPONSE OF THE CHILDREN’S,
EDUCATION AND HOME AFFAIRS PANEL**

Ministerial Response to:	S.R.11/2020
Ministerial Response required by:	12th January 2021
Review title:	Scrutiny Review of the Government Plan 2021-2024
Scrutiny Panel:	Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel

INTRODUCTION

Minister for Children and Housing’s and Acting Minister for Education Introduction:

I would like to thank the panel for their review into the Government Plan 2021-2024, the review was undertaken to meet the deadlines which were necessary due to Covid 19. Although I was not Minister of either portfolio during the review, I really appreciate the work that was undertaken and look forward to meeting with the panels in the future to discuss their recommendations and show them the progress the department has made and maintaining the positive relationship we have with the panel.

Minister for Home Affairs’ introduction:

I am grateful to the Panel for their thorough review of the Government Plan 2021-2024. It was a significant piece of work, which was completed to tight deadlines.

I am proud that the services under my ministerial remit continue to underpin the success of all the Government’s common strategic policies, by ensuring Jersey remains a safe place to live and work. The year 2020 saw great challenges and disruptions across the whole of government and this is reflected in the plan. JHA services truly went above and beyond to keep islanders safe, and maintain critical services, under the most difficult of circumstances. I am pleased that JHA services have been able to commit to helping Government achieve necessary savings by committing to make £765,000 in efficiencies and rebalancing measures. These have been carefully considered to ensure we can find savings where possible, without impacting upon the high-quality services Islanders have come to expect. The impact of Covid has also caused unavoidable delays to some vitally important projects, such as the development of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) and the Youth Justice Strategy. I look forward to sharing further details with the Panel as these projects come to fruition in the coming year and know they will receive robust and thoughtful scrutiny.

FINDINGS

	Findings	Minister	Comments
1	<p>Work is ongoing between the Department for Children, Young People, Education and Skills and the Future Economy Group to lead the development of a post-16 strategy to support the future economy programme.</p> <p>Further information as to the work and outcomes of this programme is required.</p>	MED	It is recommended that the Panel invite officers from the department for Young People, Further and Higher Education and Skills, and Economy, to provide a dedicated briefing on the Future Economy Programme and the Post 16 strategy.
2	The preferred option for a new Higher Education funding scheme is due to be brought forward for debate on Quarter one 2022 with a view to phasing in the scheme for September 2023.	MED	Noted.
3	The Jersey Premium funding for 2021 has been reduced by £159,000, even though the funding has been extended to students aged between 16 and 19 years of age. The Panel holds serious concerns over this decision given the current climate and longer-term impact on learning that has been caused by COVID-19, especially for vulnerable children and young people.	MED	This proposal was amended during the Government Plan debate.
4	The work to bring forward an Early Years policy has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Officers with responsibility being redeployed. It is, however, expected that the final policy recommendations will be completed prior to the Government Plan debate.	MED	Noted. The Early Years Policy Development board draft report is currently being considered by the CM and subsequently be presented to the CoM at a later date.

	Findings	Minister	Comments
5	The Government funding received, and the income generated through the hot meals service will keep the pilot scheme for the Primary Schools meal project running until July 2021.	MED	Noted.
6	A skills oversight group, comprised of industry leaders is proposed to be formed and Local Market Intelligence Reports are intended to be shared with them that present the various data sets in relation to skills requirements in Jersey.	MED	Noted.
7	The total number of applications to the EU Settlement Scheme (as of 16th November 2020) is 13,800. This is just over 6,000 less than the initial estimate of EU Citizens residing in Jersey. There will be a 'grace period' for applications up to the end of June 2021 for which two caseworkers are due to remain in post to support.	MHA	Correct.
8	The Legal Aid Scheme continues to operate in a 'shadow system' managed by the Law Society until the Access to Justice (Jersey) Law 2019 comes in to force. Until such time as the Regulations underpinning this Law are brought forward (to contain the proposed scheme and details of its operation) the shadow system will continue.	CM	<p>The Legal Aid Scheme presently in operation is that which was approved by the Law Society of Jersey in September 2005 and amended in June 2010. The existing Legal Aid Guidelines can be read at: https://www.legalaid.je/pdfs/Legal%20Aid%20Guidelines%20final%20ver020810.pdf</p> <p>To that end, there is not a 'shadow system' currently in operation, although it is intended that the current scheme will be replaced by a revised scheme made under the Access to Justice (Jersey) Law 2019. Prior to the 2019 Law being brought into effect (by an Appointed Day Act), the Legal Aid Guidelines Committee (established under Article 6 of the Law) have been operating in</p>

	Findings	Minister	Comments
			shadow form, the Chief Minister will be briefed on the details shortly
9	The selection of a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system for the Combined Control Room has been deferred until 2021 due to budget constraints arising from the COVID-19 response. Work to investigate the options for the future of the Emergency Call Handling Service has been accelerated in light of a number of failures in the 999 service in 2020	MHA	Correct.
10	Whilst it is acknowledged that the Ambulance Service electronic patient records and Health and Community Services Patient Records are separate projects, the Panel continues to hold concerns over the future integration of the two systems (once they have been finalised) and cannot give assurances over this at this stage.	MHA	Noted.
11	The Children and Families Hub has been expedited as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and has been operational since March 2020 rather than the planned start date of September 2020. Legislative provision to underpin the support for children in need is due to be contained in the proposed omnibus amendment to the Children (Jersey) Law 2002 to be lodged in early 2021.	MCH	Noted.
12	There has been a delay in the commencement of the work on the Youth Justice Strategy due	MCH/ MHA	Correct.

	Findings	Minister	Comments
	to the COVID-19 pandemic and Officers being redeployed to support the response. There is also uncertainty on the future funding requirements for the programme until such time as there is further progress in policy areas relating to it.		Work that will support the strategy resumed in the autumn 2020 as a result of responding to the needs of a cohort of young people particularly affected by the lockdown. Officials across Government, the judiciary and Honorary and States Police have been working on proposals for an integrated service that links to the early help service already in place and under continued development. This work is due to be presented to the Ministers for Children and Home Affairs in February for their consideration.
13	Substantial work has been undertaken to bring forward multi-agency safeguarding training for the children's workforce, however, there has been a significant impact on the take-up of training due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is noted, however, that online training has been developed which has given agencies greater access to training.	MCH	Noted.
14	The Panel is concerned that no funding has been allocated to the Citizen's Panel addressing the legacy issues of the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry in 2021, especially in light of the recent controversy in respect of the Care Memorial. There is therefore uncertainty over its future operation and clarity over this is required.	MCH	<p>A business case is currently being developed to secure an integrated package of funding to support the conclusion of the Citizens Panel process and progression of the Legacy Project during 2021. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued facilitation of the Citizens Panel until early July 2021. • A package of mental health support for Panel members running to the end of 2021. • Funding for internet enabled devices to allow the Panel to be convened digitally given the ongoing disruption caused by Covid-19 <p>Creation of a grant-funded post located in the voluntary sector to scope and pilot peer-support and independent advocacy services for survivors of abuse in care.</p>
15	A service specification for the new service to provide support		

	Findings	Minister	Comments
	to children with complex needs is currently being developed, to include the relevant staffing levels. This is also taking into account the new Children and Families Hub and the work taking place to Redesign the CAMHS service.		
16	There is a lack of clarity over how the funding for the Antenatal Service and support for children with complex needs is apportioned between the two projects. This is also not clear within the Government Plan due to the projects being included in the overall total for the P.82 Children's Services Early Intervention programme.	MCH	The funding for the ante-natal universal service of the Babysteps programme is within the main contract with Family Nursing and Home Care held by Health and Community Services Department. There is no reduction to the resource. The allocation for children with complex needs is across all ranges and will be able to support additional need at an ante-natal stage if required.
17	Work is ongoing in respect of the redesign of the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) in order to identify the preferred model and funding requirement. The Panel can therefore give no assurance at this stage as to whether the funding identified in the Government Plan 2021-24 is sufficient to meet these outcomes at this stage.	MCH	Discussions are continuing between the Departments for CYPES and HCS to confirm the level of funding that can be made available for 2021 and this is being undertaken in conjunction with the continuing work to finalise the design of the new model. Priorities for implementation are increasing the duty team and triage, early intervention and increased management capacity. By the end of Q1 we expect to be able to publish a Children and Young People emotional wellbeing and mental health strategy which will be shared with Scrutiny and will require approval from CoM.
18	Further details of the services being colocated in the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) Child's House Model and confirmation of the final siting of the centre are required before the Panel can make a more definitive judgement on the funding	MHA	Noted. The Minister looks forward to sharing further details with the Panel as the project advances.

	Findings	Minister	Comments
	allocation for the project in the Government Plan 2021-24.		
19	The Education Reform Programme is an ambitious project which will take time to fully implement and embed. There is an outline of the funding breakdown, however, this is predominately required to reduce the current deficit within the education system in general.	MED	Noted. The funding in year one does, indeed, address the structural funding issue, which is the immediate priority for remediation. However, in year one, and thereafter, there is also initial and increasing investment for service enhancement that is comparable in quantum by 2023.
20	A research project to identify the scope of the project (Youth Service English as an additional language) is due to be undertaken and reported back on in 2021. Until such time as this is completed the Panel cannot give assurances as to the level of funding identified in the Government Plan 202124.	MED	Noted.
21	The Panel has found that further evidence and a review of the effectiveness of the Covid-19 schools catch up programme is required before assurances can be given over funding levels. The Panel would also raise concern that the programme only covers students from Year 1 upwards and does not address early years.	MED	Noted.
22	Given the fluid nature of the Covid-19 pandemic and uncertainty over the level of resource required to tackle it, the Panel cannot at this stage given an assurance over the level of funding identified for the first 6-months of 2021 (£30 million). It is clear, however, that	MHA	Noted.

	Findings	Minister	Comments
	considerable work has been undertaken, and continues to be undertaken by public sector workers in order to implement the test and trace programme to keep Islanders safe. The Panel would, however, caution that a significant increase in cases could render the programme unviable within the current resourcing levels identified in the Government Plan 2021-24.		
23	The funding for the new Firearms Range for the States of Jersey Police is due to come from the Criminal Offences Confiscation Fund. Further details of the proposed siting and specification of the proposed range are required by the Panel before it can state whether the funding allocated is sufficient or excessive.	MHA	Noted.
24	There is evidence to suggest that the requirement for a Public Service Ombudsman is urgent and it should be brought forward as soon as possible. There are, however, practical limitations on this being able to take place until 2022 and therefore the operational start of the project has been deferred until that time. The Panel contend that it would be possible to achieve the aim of establishing the role if funding for the office remained in place and only considered to be an efficiency if the Law drafting process cannot bring the Office into being until Q4 2021.	CM	<p>The 2020 Government Plan originally provided funding for establishment of a Public Services Ombudsman for the period 2021 – 2023. This was initially taken as an efficiency in the Government Plan for 2021 but then reinstated from 2022 onwards on a recurring basis further to adoption of the amendment from the Panel (P.130/2020 Amd.Amd.) The Council of Minister’s amendment to the amendment reinstated monies by increasing heads of expenditure by the following amounts: 2022: £200k, 2023: £401k, 2024: £412k.</p> <p>The Panel may be aware that this project did not progress to law-drafting in 2020 as originally intended as officers were redeployed to emergency Covid-19 work. Therefore a delay of 12 months was incurred. Work on legislative drafting has now begun, with a provisional timetable of draft legislation being lodged by Q4 2021, with a debate in Q1 2022. Subject to the decision of</p>

	Findings	Minister	Comments
			the Assembly, this would allow for recruitment of a shadow board and the Ombudsman, and the establishment of the office of the Public Services Ombudsman, in 2022 in line with the reinstated funding now available.
25	<p>The Panel holds concerns over the proposed changes to a pop-up therapeutic unit for young people in residential care with complex needs rather than a full-time unit. The term ‘pop-up unit’ is also misleading as it does not relate to a specific provision, rather a wraparound service for children already in existing residential homes. The decision to make this change has come from a needs assessment which the Panel has been informed is yet to be completed. Concerns have also been raised by key stakeholders about the rationale for this change, the independence of it and whether consultation with young people has taken place. The Panel would therefore question how this decision could have been made without this outcome.</p>	MCH	<p>The Panel’s concerns are acknowledged and the Director for Children’s Safeguarding and Care will take them into account as the model for therapeutic support is developed further.</p> <p>It is agreed that the description of the forthcoming service as “pop up” does not best described the approach proposed.</p> <p>Further details will be published in the Children and Young People emotional wellbeing and mental health strategy. Strategic planning is being undertaken by the department and key stakeholders will be included in the specification design of this service.</p> <p>No final decisions have been taken in this very important workstream.</p>
26	<p>The proposed rebalancing initiative in relation to the Care Leavers offer appears to overlook the concerns and issues that have been raised directly by service users and appears to go against the Government priority of putting children first. There is also concern that the whilst demand may be currently low, there is evidence to suggest this may be down to the lack of</p>	MCH	<p>This matter has been addressed by the Stares Assembly and the proposed approach to the rebalancing has been amended.</p>

	Findings	Minister	Comments
	promotion of the service and demand may sharply rise now that the personal adviser roles are in place. This will require regular review in order to ensure that care leavers are not being denied access to funding to assist them directly.		
27	It is expected that the main impact of the rebalancing initiative to maintain a 1% vacancy rate within the States of Jersey Police Force over the next four years will be found from back office roles and functions and not front-line services. The States of Jersey Police are currently undertaking a staff review to identify where services can be changed. The Panel cannot give any assurance over the ability to meet this target until such time as the staff review is complete.	MHA	Noted.
28	Concerns have been raised in general about the closure to the public of the 'One Front Door' offices at La Motte Street, on which the digital transformation of GST and Customs Service rebalancing programme is heavily reliant in terms of realising its overall savings.	MHA	Noted.
29	The rebalancing measure to implement the electronic rostering system within the emergency services is still in the scoping stage, however, a saving of £50,000 has been identified against it. The Panel would question how this level of saving has been	MHA	Noted. It has been an aim of government to implement electronic rostering for a number of years. A government wide business case was drafted in 2016, outlining high level benefits, which was then refined by the former Constitutional and Community Affairs department. These pieces of work formed the basis for the current project. It has been estimated that efficiencies can be found from savings such as reduced error

	Findings	Minister	Comments
	identified when the project is still being scoped.		and fraud, incorrect shift payments being made and decommissioning current systems.
30	The rebalancing measure to restructure the intelligence administration function within the States of Jersey Police is reliant upon a process change that would mitigate the need to replace posts. Further details of the process change are required to give full assurance about the identified savings as well as whether they will have a knock-on effect on other areas of operation.	MHA	Noted.

RECOMMENDATIONS

	Recommendations	To	Accept/Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
1	The Minister for Education should provide further information to the Children, Education and Home Affairs Panel in respect of the outcomes of the work between the Department for Children, Young People, Education and Skills and the Future Economy Group. This should include an overview of the key performance indicators and specific outcomes for the programme, governance arrangements of the programme and membership of the future economy group by end of first quarter 2021.	MED	Accept.	Please refer to key finding 1 It is recommended that the Panel invite officers from Young People, Further and Higher Education and Skills, and Economy, to provide a dedicated briefing on the Future Economy Programme and the Post 16 strategy.	At the Panel's discretion

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
2	The Minister for Education should ensure that details of the proposed schemes being considered for to fund Higher Education are shared with the Children, Education and Home Affairs Panel at an early stage and that proper consultation is undertaken on all options being considered prior to a preferred option being identified. We recommend that this project is brought forward to quarter four 2021 with a view to the debate taking place at the earliest opportunity in January 2022, to ensure that any decision can be taken in good time before purdah prior to the 2022 election.	MED	Accept	It is recommended that the Panel invite relevant officers to present the latest project plan and discuss timescales and the timing of scrutiny (and other) engagement. Any review would go through the normal government consultation route. This would include a Green Paper and White Paper stage.	At the Panel's discretion
3	The Minister for Education should reverse the decision to reduce the funding for the Jersey Premium in 2021 and subsequent years. Given the body of evidence that outlines the impact of COVID-19 on learning for vulnerable children, including the Departments own report on learning at home, this appears to be a retrograde decision. The Panel has lodged an amendment to the	MED	N/A	This matter was addressed in the States Assembly's debate on the Government Plan.	N/A

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
	Government Plan in order to raise the budget to the original allocation for 2021 (£815,000).				
4	The Minister for Education should provide details of the final policy recommendations arising from the work of the Early Years Policy Development Board as soon as practicable after they are finalised.	MED	Accept	Please refer back to finding 4	At the Panel's discretion
5	The Minister for Education should ensure that a review is conducted prior to the end of the pilot scheme for the Primary School Meals programme in July 2021. This review should set out the future operation of any scheme and identify the relevant funding for inclusion in the next iteration of the Government Plan. Given the success of the scheme to date, the Panel is of the view that this should be extended to all States funded primary schools.	MED	Reject	As a result of the debate by the States Assembly of the Government Plan it was agreed that the school meals pilot would be extended for the duration of 2021. A revised plan for the pilot will be produced, including the timing of the evaluation and the Minister will bring this to the Panel for its consideration. The success of this scheme cannot be fully assessed until the pilot has been completed.	February 2021.
6	The Minister for Education should provide details of the proposed membership of the Skills Oversight Group and also the proposed governance arrangements for the operation of the group. This should be provided to the Panel prior to the	MED	Accept	The work on developing the governance of the Future Economy Programme and the Skills Oversight Group is continuing and the panel will be informed formally in advance of the group being established. The joint ministerial meeting between CYPES and Economy is to be arranged in Q1 21.	To be confirmed

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
	group being formally established.				
7	The Minister for Home Affairs should, by the end of December 2020, identify and bring forward proposals in order to target 'hard to reach' groups of EU citizens in order to ensure they are informed of and given all the relevant information and support in order to complete the application (if they so wish).	MHA	Accept	Officers are actively working on targeting 'hard to reach' and vulnerable EU Citizens to ensure they are aware of the requirement to apply to the Settlement Scheme and receive appropriate support to do so.	In process
8	The Chief Minister, should outline the proposed timescale for bringing forward the proposed new scheme for the Legal Aid system, as enabled by the Access to Justice (Jersey) Law 2019. Details of the final scheme and timetable should be provided to the Legal Aid Review Panel as a matter of urgency.	CM	Accept	The Chief Minister will be writing to Scrutiny setting out a timetable for the implementation of a revised scheme.	
9	The Minister for Home Affairs should provide further information to the Children, Education and Home Affairs Panel about the outcome of the investigations to onboard the Emergency Call Handling Service by the end of quarter one 2021. The Panel believes that financial penalties for any future failure in the provision	MHA	Accept	The Minister expects to be able to provide the panel with a substantive update at the end of Q1, after further discussion with the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority.	End of Q1

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
	of service should be written into any service level agreements going forward.				
10	The Minister for Home Affairs should review the preferred system for the ambulance electronic records once the Health and Community Services Patient Record system is operational to ensure that integration between the two systems is possible.	MHA	Partially accept	<p>The ambulance e-PRF project is still in the discovery phase based on working with South West Ambulance Service Trust (SWAST) and looking directly to a supplier for indicative costs.</p> <p>We have received advice from the SWAST supplier that their systems integrate with most modern systems. Any new EPRF system must have the functionality and scalability to integrate with other GoJ IT systems and data sources, and therefore the M&D design authority are asking the relevant questions about different supplier systems and how they integrate, and any solution will be discussed with GoJ Commercial Services prior to procurement. At this stage the final suppliers have not yet been determined and therefore its not possible to give full assurances on future integration.</p>	
11	The Minister for Children and Housing should provide further details of the operation and data up to the end of November 2020 of the impact of the Children and Families Hub. This should also set out the governance arrangements for the Hub. Within those details the voice of the child should be included.	MCH	Accept	<p>It is proposed that the data is provided as part of the quarterly monitoring cycle for the Government Plan and the Departmental Operational Business Plan.</p> <p>Could the panel provide further clarity on the meaning on what it means by the governance arrangements for the Hub.</p>	Quarterly through-out 2021.
12	The Minister for Home Affairs should provide	MHA	Accept	The Minister would be happy to update the Panel regarding the	End of Q1

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
	the Children, Education and Home Affairs Panel with quarterly updates on the progress of the implementation of the recommendations arising from the Youth Justice Review. These updates should also include a timeline of planned actions and key milestones for the project.			progress of the Youth Justice Strategy on a quarterly basis.	2021.
13	The Minister for Children and Housing should consider maintaining the online training developed during the COVID-19 pandemic going forward in order to broaden access to training for the children's workforce.	MCH	Accept	Given the ongoing impact of CV19 on working arrangement online learning options will continue to be made available.	Ongoing. To be reviewed monthly as part of business continuity planning.
14	The Minister for Children and Housing should, as a matter of urgency, clarify the future of the Jersey Citizen's Panel and, should this be set to continue, provide the necessary funding to enable it to continue its work.	MCH	Accept	The facilitated Citizens Panel process is expected to conclude in July 2021 after more than three years of work following the Care Inquiry. Responsibility for the completion of the outstanding elements of the Citizens Panel's Legacy Project will be passed to key partners in Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector. Any future funding will be sought via the 2022 Government Plan. As per Finding 14 above, a business case is currently being developed to support the continuation of the Panel and progression of the Legacy Project during 2021.	February 2021

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
15	The Minister for Children and Housing should make available to the Children, Education and Home Affairs Panel, details of the service specification for children with complex needs as soon as it is completed.	MCH	Accept	This work is taking place with a strong interface to the implementation of early help, the CAMHS redesign and in particular the redesign of the neurodevelopmental pathway.	March 2021
16	The Minister for Home Affairs should, by the end of quarter two 2021, provide the Children, Education and Home Affairs Panel with the full details of the service specification of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC). This should also include details of the services being co-located and the siting of the service	MHA	Accept	A scorecard has now been completed and 3 sites identified for the possible siting of the SARC. In addition, a floorplan brief has been completed which details the services that will be co-located there. A briefing at the end of Q2 should be achievable.	End of Q2 2021.
17	The Minister for Education should ensure that the progress of the Education Reform Programme is evaluated and monitored on a termly basis to ensure it is improving outcomes for children and young people. The programme should also be linked to emerging strategies and programmes for early years	MED	Partial Accept	A detailed implementation plan (including the arrangements for evaluation) will be produced and this will set out key actions, timelines and intended impact. The ERP implementation plan will be aligned to the recommendations of (and implementation plan for) the Early Years Policy Development Board.	Quarter 1 2021.
18	The Minister for Home Affairs should provide the Children, Education and Home Affairs Panel with monthly updates on the operation of the	MHA	Accept	The Minister would be pleased to provide these updates and will instruct Officers accordingly.	Monthly updates to start from February.

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
	programme as the COVID-19 response progresses to ensure there are sufficient funds available and to provide an overview of the spend to date.				
19	The Minister for Home Affairs should provide the Panel with an update on the progress identifying a site for the new Firearms Range for the States of Jersey once this has been completed. The Minister should also provide the Panel with detailed service specifications for the range prior to any further action being taken in respect of its development. As funding for this project is being found from the Criminal Offences Confiscation Fund, the Panel believes that this should not be accounted for in the Government Plan.	MHA	Accept	The Minister looks forward to sharing further details with the Panel at the appropriate stage in the development of the project. Once a site has been identified the Panel will be informed.	
20	The Chief Minister should ensure that the legislation to underpin the Public Service Ombudsman is lodged by quarter three 2021 with a view to the office becoming operational in shadow form by 1st January 2022.	CM		The Panel may be aware that this project did not progress to law-drafting in 2020 as originally intended as officers were redeployed to emergency Covid-19 work. Therefore a delay of 12 months was incurred. Work on legislative drafting has now begun, with a provisional timetable of draft legislation being lodged by Q4 2021, with a debate in Q1 2022. Subject to the decision of the Assembly, this would allow for recruitment of a shadow board and	

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
				the Ombudsman, and the establishment of the office of the Public Services Ombudsman, in 2022 in line with the reinstated funding now available.	
21	The Minister for Children and Housing should pause the rebalancing measure that would create a pop-up therapeutic assessment unit for young people in care until the needs assessment is fully completed and full consultation has taken place with key stakeholders.	MCH	Reject	The Panel's feedback will be taken into account and its concerns addressed through the ongoing development work. Please refer to finding 25.	Reject
22	The Minister for Children and Housing should not take forward the proposed rebalancing initiative in relation to the Care Leavers Offer and should seek to make the efficiency saving from within other budgets. Further work should also be undertaken, through the personal advisers, as a matter of urgency to promote access to this programme amongst care leavers. The Panel has made an amendment to the Government Plan accordingly.	MCH	Accept	Guided by the Care Leavers Outcomes Board, the promotion of the Care Leavers Offer will continue throughout 2021.	Ongoing.
23	The Minister for Home Affairs should provide the outcomes of the staff	MHA	Accept	The Minister absolutely concurs that any changes to staffing levels must not negatively impact the level of service available to the	The consultation is due to close on 22

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
	review to the Children, Education and Home Affairs Panel as soon as it is completed. The Minister should also provide quarterly updates to the Panel on the staffing levels within the States of Jersey Police which details any impacts on particular service areas arising from vacancies. The Panel is of the view that the Minister should ensure any changes to staffing levels do not negatively impact the level of service available to the public.			public and will be pleased to brief the Panel once the Staff Review has been implemented.	January, the feedback received will affect the timeline for implementation. It is therefore difficult to provide a date for completion at this time.
24	The Minister for Home Affairs should keep the operation of the GST and Customs Service rebalancing measure under review to ensure that the closure of the 'One Front Door' initiative is not impacting the public's access to the services. This should be undertaken on a monthly basis.	MHA	Accept	This will be kept under review.	
25	The Minister for Home Affairs should provide the Children, Education and Home Affairs Panel with the final outcome of the scoping project for the implementation of an electronic rostering system for the emergency services. This should include	MHA	Accept	The Minister will be happy to share the details with the Panel once the scoping project is complete.	End of Q1

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
	the final identified savings as a result its implementation				
26	The Minister for Home Affairs should provide the Children, Education and Home Affairs Panel with details of the process change within the intelligence administration function of the States of Jersey Police as soon as it is implemented. This should also include an assessment of any impact on other areas of operation within the Police Service.	MHA	Accept	The Minister will be happy to share those details with the Panel once the changes are implemented.	

CONCLUSION

Minister for Children and Housing's and Acting Minister for Education

Conclusion: I welcome the Panel's findings and recommendations and thank them for the amendments to the Government Plan.

Minister for Home Affairs' Conclusion: I welcome the Panel's findings and recommendations and I am pleased to have been able to accept the majority of the recommendations made. I look forward to working closely with the Panel for another year.