

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2017**

Question

Will the Minister inform members whether the new post to ‘establish a high-status programme of technical qualifications’, to which the current Haute Vallée Head Teacher was appointed, was advertised and, if not, advise what consultation took place and explain on what grounds this exception to the general policy on States recruitment was made and whether salary protection measures have been put in place in respect of the postholder?

Answer

The need for the Education Department to develop vocational pathways for students is identified in the Business Plan of 2015 and the subsequent Update for 2017-19 (see Action 21). Specialist skills and experience are required for the post to lead this work and meet the key objectives of the role, which are:

- deliver a Key Stage 4 technical offer for schools (curriculum, resourcing, timetabling);
- lead on developing a Digital Strategy, including the coordination of IT in the curriculum;
- lead discussions with the business sector to improve understanding of educational policy and promote closer working in future.

Exceptions can be made to the policy of open recruitment in certain circumstances, including the need for particular specialist skills, which is the case with this position. It is rare for roles to be filled without an advertisement but not without precedent, and this appointment was made within the parameters of existing HR practice.

As was noted in Written Question 1240/5(527) the salary levels of individual staff within the States is confidential.