

# STATES OF JERSEY



## **GOVERNMENT PLAN 2020–2023 (P.71/2019): TWENTY-THIRD AMENDMENT (P.71/2019 Amd.(23)) – COMMENTS**

---

**Presented to the States on 22nd November 2019  
by the Council of Ministers**

---

**STATES GREFFE**

## COMMENTS

Deputy L.M.C. Doublet of St. Saviour proposes the following in [P.71/2019 Amd.\(23\)](#) –

### **PAGE 2, PARAGRAPH (c) –**

After the words “of the Report” insert the words “, except that in Summary Table 3(i) the Head of Expenditure for Health and Community Services shall be increased by £91,000 to allow for an Infant Feeding Lead for the Maternity Department and two part-time peer supporters to be employed to support mothers wishing to breastfeed, with other affected lines in Summary Table 3(i) to be updated accordingly; and to request the Minister for Treasury and Resources to arrange for this to be funded from the Consolidated Fund”.

### **The Council of Ministers opposes this proposal and urges States Members to reject the amendment.**

The Council of Ministers shares Deputy Doublet’s commitment to supporting breastfeeding; breastfeeding is good for the physical and mental health of both infants and mothers, and as such is an evidence-based preventative measure which contributes to long-term health outcomes. However, the Council of Ministers believes that current funded initiatives already provide the support proposed in Deputy Doublet’s amendment.

The UNICEF ‘Baby Friendly Initiative’ is prioritised in the Government’s Nutrition Strategy and Children and Young People’s Plan. It is an internationally-accredited programme, which supports breastfeeding and good infant nutrition, as well as helping parents to develop close and loving relationships with their babies.

Family Nursing and Home Care achieved the first-level accreditation in the Baby Friendly Initiative in October 2019. The Health and Community Services (“HCS”) Department estimates reaching the same level of accreditation in 2020.

Breastfeeding is currently supported by the substantive HCS midwifery team, Family Nursing and Home Care, and independently by the National Childbirth Trust, which together meet present need and demand, and educative opportunities.