



Deputy Helen Miles
Chair – Parishes and Government Review Panel

BY EMAIL

28th July 2025

Dear Deputy Miles

Parishes and Government Scrutiny Review Panel

Thank you for your letter dated the 7th July 2025 and the 8 questions within the letter, which I have replied to below.

I would be more than happy to follow up with a conversation with you, should you have any further questions.

1. What role do parishes play in supporting or funding youth clubs, activities, or facilities?

In 1995 discussions took place between the Parish of St Peter (Connétable Mac Pollard) and the President & Vice President of the Education Committee (Len Norman & Ann Bailhache) and the Jersey Youth Service with reference the need for a full-time Youth Worker for the Parish as the Youth Club had developed to a size that it could not continue with just volunteers.

A group of young people wrote to the Connétable of St Peter and President of Education, and a meeting was held with the young people as they wanted their youth club to continue to develop.

The Parish and Education Committee developed what is known as a Parish Partnership with the Youth Worker being appointed in June 1996.

When the first Parish Partnerships were established, the money was to support the salary of the Parish Youth Worker.

Since 1995, conversations and negotiations have taken place with other Parishes and today there are Parish Agreements with 11 Parishes.

For a number of years some Youth Projects / Parishes only had half-time posts and in the past 2 years the CYPES department increased the funding for St Mary, St Ouen, St John, Trinity and St Lawrence, so that these posts could be made full-time. Making these post full-time has meant that we see less staff turnover, people applying for the posts and has provided a better programme of activities for young people.

There could be some further opportunities with the Parish funding that could be explored, and maybe a "Parish Funding Formular" where each Parish contributed the same funding per head of youth population of their Parish. This has not been explored in any depth or any views sought from the Parish Connétable or Youth Project Committees.

The two tables below highlight the funding from each Parish, one being ranked in order of total Investments and the second ranked in order of investment per young person

Ranked in order of total investment

Parish	Parish Investment	Summer 2024 School Census			Investment per young person	Expiry Date
		9 to 11yrs	12 to 18yrs	Total		
St. Helier	£60,600.00	892	1753	2645	£22.91	April 2026
St. Peter	£34,500.00	158	312	470	£73.40	April 2025
St. Saviour	£25,000.00	509	976	1485	£16.84	April 2027
St. Ouen	£22,000.00	156	275	431	£51.04	April 2027
St. Clement	£21,000.00	388	723	1111	£18.90	April 2025
St. Brelade	£20,000.00	341	667	1008	£19.84	N/A
St. Mary	£20,000.00	72	106	178	£112.36	April 2027
Trinity	£18,000.00	104	239	343	£52.48	April 2028
St. John	£15,000.00	92	214	306	£49.02	April 2027
St. Lawrence	£15,000.00	167	363	530	£28.30	April 2027
St. Martin	£15,000.00	152	250	402	£37.31	April 2025
Grouville	£14,000.00	172	340	512	£27.34	April 2026
Total Investment	£280,100.00	3,203	6,218	9421	£509.75	
Average Investment	£23,341.67				£42.48	

Ranked in order of Investment per young person

Parish	Parish Investment	Summer 2024 School Census			Investment per Young Person	Expiry Date
		9 to 11yrs	12 to 18yrs	Total		
St. Mary	£20,000.00	72	106	178	£112.36	April 2027
St. Peter	£34,500.00	158	312	470	£73.40	April 2025
Trinity	£18,000.00	104	239	343	£52.48	April 2028
St. Ouen	£22,000.00	156	275	431	£51.04	April 2027
St. John	£15,000.00	92	214	306	£49.02	April 2027
St. Martin	£15,000.00	152	250	402	£37.31	April 2025
St. Lawrence	£15,000.00	167	363	530	£28.30	April 2027
Grouville	£14,000.00	172	340	512	£27.34	April 2026
St. Helier	£60,600.00	892	1753	2,645	£22.91	April 2026
St. Brelade	£20,000.00	341	667	1,008	£19.84	N/A
St. Clement	£21,000.00	388	723	1,111	£18.90	April 2025
St. Saviour	£25,000.00	509	976	1,485	£16.84	April 2027
Total Investment	£280,100.00	3,203	6,218	9,421	£509.75	
Average Investment	£23,341.67				£42.48	

The data in the tables above are from the May 2024 School Census – based on academic years 4 to 6 and 7 to 13 – number rounded to the nearest 10

2. Are there any examples you could provide where the Jersey Youth Service has worked with parish authorities to identify and meet the needs of young people?

- ✓ The Parish engagement does differ from Parish to Parish; some Youth Workers will engage and work with the Honorary Police.
- ✓ Around election times the local youth project may hold a mini hustings for young people to question those people that may be running for election.
- ✓ Some Parishes will work with the Youth Worker to engage the views of young people on items that might affect them in the relevant Parish.
- ✓ As part of the participative way the Youth Service operates all Parish based Youth Projects must involve the children and young people in the design of the youth projects programme.
- ✓ Youth Outreach Project working with Parishes when antisocial behaviour has been highlighted and provide early intervention work.
- ✓ All Youth Projects are expected to provide a write up in all Parish Magazines.

3. Are there formal partnerships or agreements in place between the Youth Service and parishes? If so, what do these typically involve?

There are formal partnerships in place between the CYPES department and the relevant Parish's (excluding St Brelades).

All Parish partnerships set out the following:

- Who the agreement is between
- Outline of the Youth Worker post (Line Management, Qualifications, Appointment process)
- The financial contributions each party makes. (CYPES, Parish & Youth Project Charity)
- Finance Recharge arrangements
- Role of Parish Youth Project Committee
- Review of Agreement

4. Do you think the parishes are inclusive and accessible to younger islanders?

All Youth Clubs are part of the Parish, just like senior citizens clubs, parent and toddler groups etc

From my personal experience, some Connétable have more confidence in engaging with children and young people than others. I believe that the Youth Worker in the Parish could be used more by the Parishes to engage and seek the views of young people on Parish matters and affairs.

Parishes and Connétable would be classed as corporate parents, and one must question whether they have a duty to engage with and consult young people on anything that may affect them. Also, all Parishes should have child friendly information about their Parish and what is on offer to the local young people.

Any item on any Parish Assembly Agenda that has an impact for children and young people the Parish should seek the views of children and young people. (i.e. any new housing development,

does it have a play space for children and young people, what do young people want in the area). Items such as this is a fantastic way to the Islands being child friendly.

5. Can you provide any examples of effective collaboration between a parish and the Youth Service?

This can vary from Parish to Parish

- Parish Summer and Christmas Fete and Fairs, the local youth project will be involved
- Young people invited to events for Liberation Day
- When hotspots or risk of anti-social behaviour has been highlighted outreach work from the local youth project does take place

6. Is there consistency across Parishes in terms of youth provision and support, or are there variations?

There are some variations which I highlight below

Youth Projects in St Peter, St Ouen, St Mary, St John, St Lawrence, Trinity operate from Parish buildings and as part of the agreement JYS pays a rent to use the buildings.

St Martin (Maufant YC), St Saviour (Grands Vaux YC), Grouville (Gorey YC) St Clements (Le Squez) are Government of Jersey buildings and fully funded by Youth Service including utilities, maintenance, cleaning etc

St Brelade's YC operates from Communicare building with a rent paid to the centre committee

St Helier

Move-on-café – Parish of St Helier support the rent of the building, but Youth Service covers utilities, maintenance, cleaning etc

First Tower – Government of Jersey building with Parish supporting the Youth Worker salary. Youth Service covers utilities, maintenance, cleaning etc

La Pouquelaye – This project does not have a building. It uses schools, mobile youth project and First Tower Youth Centre once a week – Parish supporting Youth Worker salary

New Town Youth Centre – This will be a Government of Jersey building with Youth Service covering utilities, maintenance, cleaning etc. Discussions will need to take place between the Parish and Youth Service to see how the Parish will support the new centre

7. What challenges, if any, does the Jersey Youth Service face when working with parishes to deliver services to young people?

The relationships with all Parish are positive and several Parish Connétable are involved with the local youth project committee. Also, some Parishes provide funding directly to their local youth project on top of the Parish Partnership.

8. In your view, is there a need for parish structures to be improved or better utilised in order to support Jersey's younger population

The Parish system and structures work, what is required is the engagement the Parish has with children and young people.

Parish engagement with young people is vital for building inclusive, vibrant, and forward-looking Parish's / communities. It ensures that young voices are heard in decision-making processes that impact their lives now and in the future.

Why Engage Young People?

1. **Representation:** Young people make up a significant part of the population of a Parish and deserve a say in how their Parish / community are shaped.
2. **Future Planning:** Policies around housing, climate change, education, transport, and employment affect youth long-term.
3. **Social Education:** Engagement fosters a sense of responsibility, belonging and understanding of democracy. We need young people to come through to be our next Honorary Police, Road Inspectors, Rates Assessors, to lead on Parish Organisations.
4. **Innovation:** Young people often bring fresh ideas and perspectives.

Suggested methods of engagement

Partnerships with Schools & Youth Groups

- All Schools have School councils who are elected groups of children / young people and Parishes could use these forums to engage with young people.
- Could all Parish Connétable attend 2 School council meetings in a years to hear from children and young people.
- Could all Parish Connétable attend one organised session at the local youth project

Consultation Forums & Surveys

- Involve young people in feedback on local issues
- Parishes to use digital tools (e.g., online surveys, polls on social media) to engage with children and young people
- Individual young people representing their peers on Parish boards or committees.

Parish Workshops and Co-Design Initiatives

- Children & young people are invited to help design public play spaces in their Parish

Best Practices

- **Parish inclusive design:** Parishes to tailor engagement approaches to different age demographics.
- **Parish feedback loops:** Connétable to report back on how children and young people input shaped decisions.
- **Empowerment over consultation:** Give young people actual decision-making power when possible.
- **Ongoing relationships:** Make engagement regular, not just for one-off projects.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Capern', written in a cursive style.

Mark Capern
Associate Director – Young Peoples Service's

D +44 (0)1534 280501

E M.Capern@gov.je