

STATES OF JERSEY



FEE-PAYING/PRIVATE SCHOOLS: REDUCTION IN LEVEL OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR 2011

**Lodged au Greffe on 26th October 2010
by Senator J.L. Perchard**

STATES GREFFE

PROPOSITION

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –

to request the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture not to make any reduction in the level of financial support in 2011 for the schools listed below until the Minister has brought the matter to the States for debate and approval –

Jersey College for Girls
Jersey College for Girls Preparatory School
Victoria College
Victoria College Preparatory School
De La Salle College (primary and secondary)
Beaulieu Convent School (primary and secondary)
FCJ Primary School
St. George's Preparatory School
St. Michael's Preparatory School

SENATOR J.L. PERCHARD

REPORT

In September 2010 the States debated the Draft Annual Business Plan 2011. The States approved, without amendment, the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture's proposals for the 2011 funding of Fee-paying Education (Provided Schools) at £5,676,200 and Fee-paying Education (Non-Provided Schools) at £5,133,500. These figures represented a total increase awarded to Fee-paying/Private schools of £295,200. I attach, at the Appendix, pages 35 and 36 of the Annex to the 2011 Draft Business Plan, where the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture details his 2011 Budget proposals, and there are details of the ESC Service Analysis, Objectives and Performance Measures.

Despite the 2011 CSR request to deliver 2% savings across the whole of his £111 million budget the Minister, when publishing his 2011 estimates in the Annual Business Plan, clearly demonstrated his unequivocal support for Fee-paying/Private schools by proposing an actual increase of £295,200 in their 2011 funding.

Astonishingly, one week after the formal adoption of the Draft Annual Business Plan 2011, the Minister made it known that he intended to reduce the level of financial support to Fee-paying/Private schools by 50%.

I maintain that at the time of the 2011 Draft Annual Business debate, the Minister withheld from members his plans to reduce the level of financial support to Fee-paying/Private schools to the equivalent level of 25% of cost of educating a child in the States sector. The Minister for Treasury and Resources confirmed my suspicions in this respect during questions without notice on 12th October 2010 when he said – (I quote from Hansard)

“6.2 Senator J.L. Perchard:

Would the Minister for Treasury and Resources advise the Assembly when he and other Ministers were informed of Education's proposals to reduce the level of financial support of fee-paying schools in 2011, and can you explain why the draft 2011 Business Plan was silent in this respect?

Senator P.F.C. Ozouf:

I think that I was drawn to the fact that the Minister was going to be proposing some element of his £1.2 million for private sector schools, probably a couple of weeks before the Business Plan debate. I think it is unfortunate and lessons should have been learned – and lessons have been learned – about having a wide-ranging debate and ideally we should not have been put in the position that we are in. Lessons have been learned about that.”

Members will draw their own conclusions as to why the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture made the decision at least 2 weeks before the Annual Business Plan debate to inform his colleagues on the Council of Ministers, but not States members, of his extreme plans to slash the levels of financial support to Fee-paying/Private schools.

The fact that many people, both in and outside the States believe that the Minister's new policy is completely misguided and that the Minister has displayed a worrying level of poor judgement over the handling of this matter is irrelevant when one considers this particular proposition.

The fact that Fee-paying/Private schools provide a very good standard of education, a single-sexed and a faith option to parents as well as excellent value-for-money to the taxpayer is also irrelevant when one considers this proposition.

This proposition simply requests the Minister to bring to the States for approval any plans he has for 2011 that will essentially alter the financial relationship between the Fee-paying/Private schools and the States of Jersey.

Financial and manpower implications

There will be no financial or manpower implications for the States should this proposition be adopted.

Education, Sport and Culture

Detailed Service Analysis - Key Objectives

Description of Service and Objectives	Ref. key objectives	2010 Estimate £	2011 Estimate £	Increase / (Decrease) £	Financial Summary
Schools and Colleges					
Pre School Education Provide care and education to pre-school children at States and Private Nursery provisions.	2,4,5,7,8	3,562,000	3,682,800	120,800	
Primary Education (Non Fee Paying) Provide compulsory education from reception to year 6 in primary non fee paying schools.	2,4,5,6,7,8	23,277,300	23,467,700	190,400	Includes savings of £60,000 - Cease Primary PE Initiative; part share of £298,000 savings due to Schools and Colleges team redefinition of core business; part share of £33,000 savings due to cessation of annual grant to Durrell
Secondary Education (Non Fee Paying) Provide compulsory education from Year 7 to year 11 in secondary non fee paying schools and post 16 at Hautlieu. Implement revised programme of Citizenship within the curriculum.	1,2,4,5,6,7,8	23,525,800	24,067,200	541,400	Includes part share of £298,000 savings due to Schools and Colleges team redefinition of core business; part share of £33,000 savings due to cessation of annual grant to Durrell
FP Education (Provided Schools) Provide fee paying education for pupils at States run schools.	1,2,6,7,8	5,676,200	5,686,000	9,800	Includes reduction in respect of property occupancy charge re CAG recommendations; part share of £298,000 savings due to Schools and Colleges team redefinition of core business
FP Education (Non -Provided Schools) Facilitate fee paying education for pupils dependent on religious choice or ability to pay.	1,2,4,6,7,8	4,848,100	5,133,500	285,400	
Special Educational Needs and Special Schools Provide educational support for children with special educational needs.	2,4,5,7,8	7,969,900	8,063,000	93,100	Includes reduction in respect of re-organisation of Primary SEBD provision and Psychology service restructure
Instrumental Music Service Provide tuition in a wide range of musical instruments including preparation for the Royal School of Music examinations. Maintain Island orchestras and classroom support.	3,8	738,700	757,700	19,000	
Culture and Lifelong Learning					
Further, Vocational, and Tertiary Education (Including Highlands College) Provide further and vocational education in the Island. Provide opportunities for learning for residents of all ages. Introduce vocational options for 14-16 year olds at Highlands	1,2,4,8	8,870,000	8,827,000	(43,000)	Includes reduction of £210,000 following management re-structuring
Public Libraries Cater for the educational, cultural, recreational and information needs of all members of the community.	8	1,688,600	1,717,300	28,700	
Youth Service Support and develop work with young people in their leisure time through a network of organisations	4,5,7,8	1,495,200	1,477,500	(17,700)	Includes reduction of £50,000 net as a result of re-structuring senior management team

Education, Sport and Culture

Detailed Service Analysis - Key Objectives

Description of Service and Objectives	Ref. key objectives	2010 Estimate £	2011 Estimate £	Increase / (Decrease) £	Financial Summary
Higher Education (Student Finance) Provide grants for further and higher education (UK and home) and education allowances.	8	8,458,500	8,675,900	217,400	
Careers Jersey Provision of career advice and guidance, employer liaison and employment of the disabled	1,8	671,600	689,200	17,600	
Day Care Services Regulate and monitor all day care providers.	8	199,700	199,000	(700)	
Jersey Child Care Trust Provide support for the development of high quality childcare.	2,8	172,000	176,400	4,400	
Heritage Provide grant to the Jersey Heritage Trust.	7,8	2,085,900	2,495,700	409,800	Additional £350,000 agreed as growth by Council of Ministers to part fund structural deficit in the Trust's accounts
Culture Provide support for cultural development including grants to various Arts organisations.	7,8	1,715,200	1,797,900	82,700	
Sport and Leisure					
Sports Centres Provide and maintain high quality indoor and outdoor sports centres and opportunities for participation.	3,6,8	2,077,500	1,928,400	(149,100)	Includes part share of £37,000 savings due to Technical Team restructure
Playing Fields and School Sports Maintain playing fields and sports facilities at Haute Vallee, Langford, FB Fields and other sports sites.	3,6,8	1,355,600	1,364,800	9,200	Includes part share of £37,000 savings due to Technical Team restructure
Sports Development Increase participation and provide opportunities to improve at all levels of sport and recreation.	3,6,8	594,900	608,900	14,000	Includes savings of £60,000 - Cease Primary PE Initiative
Grants and Advisory Council Provide miscellaneous sports grants to support individuals and organisations.	3,8	316,000	328,900	12,900	
Playschemes and Outdoor Education Organise holiday activities and outdoor programmes.	3,8	217,800	207,600	(10,200)	
Minor Capital Expenditure Equipment replacement and enhancement (transferred from Capital programme)	3,8	-	100,000	100,000	Transfer of budget from Capital to Revenue to reflect the nature of the spend in this area
CSR Savings					
Savings to be identified following the outcome of the major reviews		-	(1,295,000)	(1,295,000)	Savings to be identified following the outcome of the major reviews being undertaken in the Education, Sport and Culture department
Total		99,516,500	100,157,400	640,900	

Unless otherwise stated, budget changes represent the cost of staff and non-staff inflation and / or pupil number adjustments