

STATES OF JERSEY



GOVERNMENT PLAN 2021–2024 (P.130/2020) EIGHTEENTH AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 30th November 2020
by Deputy R.J. Ward of St. Helier

STATES GREFFE

1 PAGE 2, PARAGRAPH (i) –

After the words “Appendix 2 – Summary Table 5(i) to the Report” insert the words –

“, except that in Summary Table 5(i) the Revenue Head of Expenditure for Covid-19 Response shall be reduced by £573,717 and such funding allocated to the Head of Expenditure for Children, Young People, Education and Skills to allow for the extension of the school meals pilot to all fully state-funded primary schools with a view to Island-wide provision being in place by the start of term in September 2021 at the latest, or earlier if practicable.”

DEPUTY R.J. WARD OF ST. HELIER

Note: After this amendment, the proposition would read as follows –

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

to receive the Government Plan 2021 – 2024 specified in Article 9(1) of the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2019 (“the Law”) and specifically –

- (a) to approve the estimate of total States income to be paid into the Consolidated Fund in 2021 as set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 1 to the Report, which is inclusive of the proposed taxation and impôts duties changes outlined in the Government Plan, in line with Article 9(2)(a) of the Law;
- (b) to approve the amounts to be transferred from one States fund to another for 2021, in line with Article 9(2)(b) as set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 2 to the Report;
- (c) to approve the proposed borrowing to be obtained for 2021, in line with Article 9 (2)(c), up to and including the amount set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 3 to the Report;
- (d) to approve each major project that is to be started or continued in 2021 and the total cost of each such project and any amendments to the proposed total cost of a major project under a previously approved government plan, in line with Article 9(2)(d), (e) and (f) of the Law and as set out in Appendix 2 - Summary Table 4 to the Report;
- (e) to endorse the efficiencies and other re-balancing measures for 2021 contained in the Government Plan as set out in Appendix 2 Summary Table 6 and reflected within each gross head of expenditure in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 5(i);

- (f) to approve the proposed amount to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund for 2021, for each head of expenditure, being gross expenditure less estimated income (if any), in line with Articles 9(2)(g), 10(1) and 10(2) of the Law and set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Tables 5(i) and (ii) of the Report, except that in Summary Table 5(i) the Revenue Head of Expenditure for Covid-19 Response shall be reduced by £573,717 and such funding allocated to the Head of Expenditure for Children, Young People, Education and Skills to allow for the extension of the school meals pilot to all fully state-funded primary schools with a view to Island-wide provision being in place by the start of term in September 2021 at the latest, or earlier if practicable;”
- (g) to approve the estimated income, being estimated gross income less expenditure, that each States trading operation will pay into its trading fund in 2021 in line with Article 9(2)(h) of the Law and set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 7 to the Report;
- (h) to approve the proposed amount to be appropriated from each States trading operation’s trading fund for 2021 for each head of expenditure in line with Article 9(2)(i) of the Law and set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 8 to the Report; (i) to approve the estimated income and expenditure proposals for the Climate Emergency Fund for 2021 as set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 9 to the Report;
- (i) to approve the estimated income and expenditure proposals for the Climate Emergency Fund for 2021 as set out in Appendix 2 – Summary Table 9 to the Report;
- (j) to approve, in accordance with Article 9(1) of the Law, the Government Plan 2021-2024, as set out at Appendix 3 to the Report.

REPORT

It's estimated that up to 1,000 children don't have access to a hot meal each day because of poor accommodation, lack of cooking facilities and financial difficulties. Packed lunches often use vast quantities of single use plastic, polluting our oceans and creating irreversible damage to the environment. 6,500 packed lunches each day in Jersey contribute to over 3.2 million pieces of single use plastic being disposed of every year.

The extension of the pilot project both beyond July 2021 and to all states funded primary schools will have significant positive impacts on health, wellbeing and the financial position of many families. A CRIA will follow with detailed information on these impacts.

One issue faced by schools is the creation of a “serving space”. This is an area where headteachers are fully co-operative and demonstrate a solution focused approach to enable this in every school. There is also funding from private sources to establish initial facilities that will enable the long-term provision.

This report is short as the appendices will include much of the information needed plus a detailed Children’s Rights Impact Assessment that will follow as a comments paper.

Children’s Rights Impact Assessment (CRIA)

A CRIA will follow as an Addendum, pending detailed data and information.

Financial and manpower implications

The cost to extend this project in the first year is £573,717. An economy of scale must be factored into long term expansion of the project and this can be reviewed termly for most effective spend.

There are 1,595 children who would be eligible for a free school meal, if Pupil Premium is used as an indicator. The current cost to produce and serve one meal to a child is £4.01. Given that not all schools have the necessary serving areas, if Government invested in the infrastructure to fit out schools with a serving area, it is likely the total cost of a meal per child would decrease. Under the existing school meals pilot scheme 46% of eligible children are provided with a meal. It is therefore suggested that costings for this initiative are set at 46% of all eligible children, which is £573,717 per year.

Funding to allow for the extension of the school meals pilot to all fully state-funded primary schools is sought from the Economic Recovery Programme – £15.5M is set aside in 2021 with £12M in 2022 and 2023. This can provide initial funding for 3 years. The contract is currently held by a local company and any future tender process is likely to be a local company. The expansion of the programme will provide long term, sustainable employment with significant positive social impact. This will help with the transition to a post pandemic new normal.

Appendix 1: Caring Cooks Social Impact Report 2018-2019

Appendix 2: Caring Cooks – Making an impact report