



**JERSEY YOUTH ASSEMBLY**  
**Tuesday 26th March 2024**

**Prayers will be read by Jade Carreau of Jersey College for Girls**

**Notre Père**, qui es aux cieux, ton nom soit sanctifié. Ton règne vienne. Ta volonté soit faite en la terre comme au ciel. Donne-nous aujourd'hui notre pain quotidien. Et nous pardonne nos offenses, comme nous pardonnons à ceux qui nous ont offensés. Et ne nous induis point en tentation, mais délivre nous du mal. Car à toi est la règne, la puissance et la gloire, aux siècles des siècles, **AMEN**

**A. COMMUNICATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT**

**B. QUESTIONS**

Sienna Springett of Beaulieu will ask a question of the Connétable of St. Peter, Minister for Children and Families regarding care providers.

Petra Viera of Beaulieu will ask a question of Deputy Steve Luce of Grouville and St. Martin, Minister for the Environment regarding plastic free packaging.

Ella Duxbury of Jersey College for Girls will ask a question of Deputy Tom Binet of St. Saviour, Minister for Health and Social Services regarding lowering the age for mammogram screenings.

Leah Davies of Hautlieu will ask a question of Deputy Carina Alves of St. Helier Central, Assistant Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning regarding modernisation of the education curriculum.

Ella Duxbury of Jersey College for Girls will ask a question of the Connétable of St. John, Minister for Infrastructure regarding new sports facilities on the Island.

Yasmin Jenkins of Jersey College for Girls will ask a question of Deputy Tom Binet of St. Saviour, Minister for Health and Social Services regarding ADHD medication.

Milly Sheridan of Hautlieu will ask a question of Deputy Sam Mézec of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing regarding housing affordability for young people.

Maria Strugariu of Hautlieu will ask a question of Deputy Mary Le Hegarat of St. Helier North, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs regarding anti-social behaviour.

Ines Mineiro of Hautlieu will ask a question of Deputy Lyndon Farnham, the Chief Minister, responding on behalf of the Minister for International Development, regarding aid in Gaza.

Tara Battrick of Beaulieu will ask a question of Deputy Carina Alves of St. Helier Central, Assistant Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning regarding education in relation to agriculture and fisheries.

**C. QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF MINISTER**

Students are invited to pose questions without notice for 15 minutes to Deputy Lyndon Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, the Chief Minister.



**D. PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**Compulsory education to age 18**

Jade Carreau, Jersey College for Girls

**Support tourism through additional finance tax**

Sienna Springett, Beaulieu

**Ban tobacco and vapes for those born after 2009**

Tara Battrick, Beaulieu (on behalf of Victoria College Jersey)

**Euthanasia should be legalised**

Maria Strugariu, Hautlieu



**Sienna Springett of Beaulieu will ask the following question of the Connétable of St. Peter, Minister for Children and Families –**

**Given the 2023 finding of the Care Commission, which found that three children’s homes were not fit for purpose, will the Minister explain how he proposes to increase the number of care providers in Jersey so that children do not have to leave the Island?**

Emergency accommodation was established for children requiring urgent care and protection, and at the time there were no available places across care services. This position is referred to as regulated activity in unregistered settings.

The department has since opened 2 new additional Children’s Homes to prevent the need for emergency accommodation. There have been no further incidents of regulated activity in unregistered settings, and we have no unregistered provision at present.

Moving into 2024 our fostering service delivery has received a revised & innovative approach to meeting our sufficiency duty on the island.

Since January – we have x 5 new general foster care households approved, x 1 Intensive foster carer household approved, and x 2 other connected household FC approvals. We have x 4 more households coming through fostering panel in the next 3 fostering panels. 1 family were allocated for full assessment this week following the Skills to Foster Preparation training concluding. There are 4 more households submitting Fostering applications as a result of this training in the next 2 weeks. They will be allocated for assessment within 7 days. We will have exceeded our annual target by June.

**Petra Viera of Beaulieu will ask the following question of Deputy Steve Luce of Grouville and St. Martin, Minister for the Environment –**

**Will the Minister advise whether he would support plastic free packaging of fruit and vegetables, and if so, how he would propose to implement this in Jersey?**

I would first like to express my thanks for the Youth Assembly’s engagement on environmental issues. I am committed to reducing waste and look forward to working with the Minister for Infrastructure on delivering this. A significant volume of plastic packaging is received at the Energy Recovery Facility, making it an important waste stream to tackle.

The Carbon Neutral Roadmap includes a commitment to publish a Circular Economy Strategy by 2025. This means moving away from our current linear model of ‘take, make, waste’ towards an approach where materials are circulated for as long as possible by sharing, maintaining, remanufacturing and finally, recycling.

A key part of this ambition is thinking about materials and products at the start of their life and ‘designing out waste’. The Circular Economy will look at ways that we can change how the economy is structured to phase out unnecessary packaging.

Putting more responsibility on suppliers and retailers to produce less waste is one option. This will take time as new methods of protecting produce during transport and ensuring hygiene standards will be needed. As other jurisdictions move towards more stringent restrictions on packaging, we will hopefully see the positive effects as suppliers find innovative solutions to the issue.

Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging in the UK requires producers to pay the full cost of dealing with waste they produce to the end of its life. Similar schemes across the world have



accelerated collection and recycling targets and this is something that could be explored further for Jersey.

The Single Use Plastics law prohibits the distribution of single-use plastic and has been a great success in reducing the use of plastic bags in Jersey. The law was designed to be able to add on other single use items as required. Work is currently in train to extend it to disposable vapes. Consideration could be given to a future extension to cover plastic packaging on fruit and vegetables. However careful thought to the consequences of doing so would be needed. One such consideration is the fact that plastic packaging is used to protect goods and extend their life, reducing food waste. If plastic packaging was banned, would we have more food waste? Would introducing such legislation restrict the variety of products available (for example ready washed salad leaves and pre-prepared vegetables) and how would people and businesses feel about this?

A reduction in plastic packaging on island could also be achieved through voluntary initiatives from shops as well as behaviour change campaigns. I'm delighted that the government supported Food Waste Action Week in the week of 18<sup>th</sup> March. The theme was 'buy loose', encouraging Islanders to buy only what they need, reducing food waste and plastic packaging.

There have been some positive steps in the right direction on plastic waste, but we need to do more. I welcome the expansion of reuse and refill options for shoppers, and I am committed to working closely with the Minister for Infrastructure to identify the best way to reduce plastic waste in Jersey.

**Ella Duxbury of Jersey College for Girls will ask the following question of Deputy Tom Binet of St. Saviour, Minister for Health and Social Services –**

**Will the Minister advise whether there has been any consideration given to lowering the age for mammogram screenings to 40 years old to enhance the early detection and treatment of breast cancer in Jersey, and if not, why not?**

Our current mammography screening programme aligns with the current NHS offer in the UK – being that screening is provided every two years for all women from the age of 50. For those women at increased risk of breast cancer, where a family history of breast cancer exists for example, are offered earlier and more frequent breast screening.

Jersey's Screening Board reviews the evidence base for the screening programmes regularly, as well as potential future screening programmes. As new evidence emerges, this will be considered by the Board with respect to breast screening in the Island.

It's our intention to keep the issue of eligibility age under constant review, and if evidence suggests that lowering this is of significant benefit, and that the funds can be made available, we will of course consider implementing changes as appropriate.

**Leah Davies of Hautlieu will ask the following question of Deputy Carina Alves of St. Helier Central, Assistant Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning –**

**Will the Minister detail any plans he has to modernise the Islands education curriculum to better align with contemporary needs?**

The Jersey Curriculum Council (JCC) supports the Minister in identifying areas of the Curriculum to review and support.



Over the past year the JCC was pleased to work with the Youth Assembly in reviewing the provision and teaching of PSHE in school. This month new guidance and resources, both for the content and teaching methods (pedagogy), have been issued for PSHE in secondary schools and colleges.

In addition, the JCC has recently updated the Religious Education curriculum to include world views, inclusive of both religious and non-religious beliefs, faiths, and traditions. Members of the Youth Assembly joined a JCC meeting and their input, as well as targeted work with young people in schools, was a valued influence on the update. The Curriculum is supported by a non-statutory Jersey approved syllabus.

The Jersey School Review Framework, in its open and published reports, includes an evaluation of the quality and breadth of curriculum offered in schools.

I will continue to evaluate the school reports and to work with the Youth Assembly and the JCC (with representative from all schools), as well as with other departments including Skills, Economy and Health, to review the curriculum and any appropriate guidance required to support teachers in meeting the needs of children and young people.

**Ella Duxbury of Jersey College for Girls will ask the following question of the Connétable of St. John, Minister for Infrastructure –**

**Will the Minister advise whether he has any plans to build additional sport facilities in the Island?**

I was honoured when I was recently appointed as Assistant Minister with responsibility for Sport. As a keen sports player and cyclist in my youth I have always championed sport, recognising the benefits it brings in terms of both physical and mental health.

I therefore acknowledge how important it is to have sufficient facilities to allow Islanders to participate in sport on the Island – both competitive and recreational.

This means ensuring that facilities that are principally used in school time are used to their full potential for the benefit of the wider community outside these hours, when they are currently standing empty or used sparingly.

In the next few months, work will commence on an expansion of the sports facilities at Oakfield Sports Centre, representing an investment of some £8.3M. This expansion includes the establishment of a dedicated gymnastic centre, martial arts dojos, cricket facilities and indoor sport court for sports such as netball, basketball, volleyball and badminton. These additions will complement the existing 3G sport pitch completed in 2022.

This project represents a significant investment in sports facilities and will replace the current provisions available at Fort Regent, offering sport users, clubs and associations a much-needed improvement in facilities. The targeted completion date is September 2025.

Alongside the impressive skate park at Les Quennevais, which you may have used, we will continue to explore the feasibility of introducing new smaller satellite skateparks, potentially located in St Helier or the East of Island, as well as introducing more skate-friendly street furniture into these areas.



**Yasmin Jenkins of Jersey College for Girls will ask the following question of Deputy Tom Binet of St. Saviour, Minister for Health and Social Services –**

**Further to reported shortages in ADHD medication, will the Minister advise whether he has a strategy to improve accessibility to this medication for teenagers, given its importance for neurodivergent individuals' daily functioning?**

ADHD services provided by both CAMHS and adult Mental Health services have seen significant increases in demand of late, resulting in longer waiting lists for assessment. In addition, there has been an international shortage of these medications which is unfortunately out of Jersey's control, and current legislation in Jersey limits the number of practitioners who can prescribe this medication.

Current plans to improve this include:

- recruitment of additional clinical staff with expertise in this area, changing the way we run our services so that more people can be offered appointments.
- changing the legislation about who can prescribe the medication – we want to enable GPs to prescribe, with support from specialists, so that specialists are freed up to see more patients.
- developing a neurodiversity strategy that looks at other types of support & interventions which may be helpful, that could also help with daily functioning.

It is important to note that whilst we can work to better the infrastructure around prescribing and increased capacity within our workforce, we are ultimately reliant on UK medication supply. However, we are doing what we can to improve the supply to the island.

**Milly Sheridan of Hautlieu will ask the following question of Deputy Sam Mézec of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing –**

**Will the Minister advise whether he has any plans to enhance the accessibility of housing for young people and how is he intending to address ongoing affordability challenges?**

I acknowledge that Jersey has a housing crisis which poses an existential threat to our future prosperity. Young people are consistently telling us that the cost of housing is making many of them lose hope that they can look forward to happy and fulfilling lives here. We must listen to them.

When I became Housing Minister two months ago, on my first day in office I established a Housing Crisis Emergency Taskforce and begun implementing measures to address it, including:

- Supporting Islanders into home ownership – I launched the First Step assisted home ownership scheme last month, which uses a fund of £10m to help young people with the cost of buying their first home.
- Improving the experience of Islanders who rent their home – I am planning to make changes to our rental laws to give tenants greater security in their homes; prevent unfair evictions and protect them against excessive rent increases.
- I am also reducing the age at which Islanders can access social housing; I recently reduced the maximum age limit to 30-years old, and I will reduce it to 25 later this year.
- Finally, I am helping young Islanders at risk of homelessness, making sure they have access to accommodation and support, and can live independently.

There is much more to do to restore the confidence of young people that they have a government that will genuinely work to address their needs and give them hope for a better future here. I hope the start we have made shows that we have the plan and the determination to achieve this.



**Maria Strugariu of Hautlieu will ask the following question of Deputy Le Hegarat of St. Helier North, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs –**

**With anti-social behaviour becoming increasingly problematic in some areas, will the Minister advise whether consideration has been given to harsher sentences, including jail time, for young people who repeatedly offend?**

In the later 20<sup>th</sup> century and until now, the general trend of sentences for children and young people has been away from punitive restrictions of liberty and towards rehabilitative and restorative justice.

It is still possible for children and young people to be detained, although in a secure detention facility rather than a jail, for example when the offence is very serious or the risk to others is too severe.

Whilst this may seem like an attractive solution to repeated minor offending, especially to those who are being directly affected by the behaviour, the risk with using detention is that a person who would have naturally grown out of crime by their early 20s, but who is locked up for periods of time, might instead become used to detention, resentful of authority, and unable to get a job due to their record.

The more difficult it is for someone to come back into society, the more likely they are to offend in future. Careless application of harsher sentences has the potential to turn children engaging in low level offending into lifelong criminals.

Harsher non-custodial sentences have been considered in the past, including Criminal Behaviour Orders and something like the UK Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs), but if brought in without careful thought, such orders might not meet their objectives, and it should be noted that the UK's experience of ASBO's was not positive overall.

That being said, the criminal justice system must be kept under continual review and any proposed method of reducing crime and anti-social behaviour must be considered on the evidence.

**Ines Mineiro of Hautlieu will ask the following question of the Chief Minister –**

**Further to the adoption by the States of the Gaza Ceasefire proposition, will the Minister advise whether there are any plans to provide aid to civilians in Gaza, and what such aid would include?**

Jersey funds have supported the provision of essential medical supplies, supported services combating gender-based violence, and supplied emergency food and water.

Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA) made two grants in 2023, to the UN's Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (£200,000) and International Health Partners (£80,000).

Following escalation of the crisis, JOA has agreed two more grants in 2024: UN World Food Programme (£150,000) and International Health Partners again (£100,000), which will help address critical food and medical needs.

Since the vicious attack on Israel on 7th October 2023, and the subsequent invasion of Gaza, a serious humanitarian emergency has developed in the Gaza Strip. At this time, over 31,000 Gaza residents have been reported killed and over 73,000 injured. That's approximately one person in 20, of whom about 70% are women and children. Meanwhile over 75% the population has been displaced, and half the housing stock destroyed. There appears to be a real risk of famine, with insufficient food aid reaching people who are now severely malnourished.



The Government of Jersey along with JOA continues to closely monitor the conflict and support humanitarian efforts in order to contribute to the international community's collective efforts to work towards a just and lasting resolution.

**Tara Battrick of Beaulieu will ask the following question of Deputy Carina Alves of St. Helier Central, Assistant Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning –**

**Will the Minister advise whether he has any plans to include agriculture and fisheries within the education curriculum or within adult skills programmes?**

There are no plans to make formal changes to the education curriculum in this area, as both are already in place within the geography, PSHE and science curriculums.





## **JERSEY YOUTH ASSEMBLY 2024**

### **PROPOSITION**

**The Assembly is asked whether it is of opinion that Jersey should introduce mandatory education or training until the age of 18.**

**JADE CARREAU  
JERSEY COLLEGE FOR GIRLS**

### **REPORT**

Education and training have become indispensable tools for personal development of our youth, economic prosperity and social progress for the island. As the economy continues to grow, the need for skilled and knowledgeable workforce is in high demand. Introducing mandatory education or training until the age of 18 is an immense opportunity for Jersey to empower its younger citizens, foster economic resilience and create a further thriving society. Education until the age of 18 is something that we believe should be implemented in our island to ensure the development of a greater range of skills, and to further offer opportunities to young people later in life.

In 2021, the participation rate of 16–18-year-olds in level 3 qualifications was 26.6%. This is compared to the UK where 71.8% are in full time education, and 66.5% are studying level 3 qualifications as of 2022.<sup>1</sup> 100% of 16–18-year-olds in the UK are involved in either full time education, apprenticeships, part-time education, employer funded training or in other education and training.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Benefits:**

Introducing a law similar to that of the UK would ensure that young people were given the same opportunities to students in the UK.

The students would receive many benefits, such as increasing their skill levels and better preparing them to find and succeed in employment.

The students would be able to earn higher wages as they are more valued due to being more qualified. In addition to higher wages, better qualified individuals enjoy improved employment prospects and an increased likelihood of receiving workplace training. These young people would be more likely to get promoted and undertake further learning in the future, including progressing into Higher Education.

There are wider benefits associated with higher qualification levels such as better health and improved social skills.

There would also be further benefits for Jersey's economy, which will increasingly demand more highly skilled employees and benefit from individuals' increasing earnings. It would eliminate opportunity cost for young people on Jersey compared to those in the UK, as well as reducing the number of economically inactive individuals in the island.

#### **What would this involve:**

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<sup>1</sup> [Marshall, Sally. "Participation in Education, Training and Employment Age 16 to 18, Calendar Year 2022." GOV.UK, 19 Oct. 2023, explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/participation-in-education-and-training-and-employment.](https://gov.uk/explore-education-statistics-service.gov.uk/find-statistics/participation-in-education-and-training-and-employment) Accessed 20 Mar. 2024.

<sup>2</sup> States of Jersey. "Education Statistics." Gov.Je, Government of Jersey, 2021, [www.gov.je/StatisticsPerformance/Education/pages/education.aspx#anchor-4](https://www.gov.je/StatisticsPerformance/Education/pages/education.aspx#anchor-4). Accessed 20 Mar. 2024



We propose that all children under the age of 18 should either be partaking in a level 3 qualification or something equivalent to a level 3 qualification. This could be achieved by education through employment such as being trained by a company for a specific set of skills, education through an apprenticeship or part-time education, as well as full-time education.

This would be introduced in 2030, so students are aware of their options from the time they enter secondary school, and this will allow them to be conscious of the opportunities available to them for post-16 education.

We believe as a smaller community than England, with a population 509 times smaller than it, this proposal should be easier to administrate.



## **JERSEY YOUTH ASSEMBLY 2024**

### **PROPOSITION**

**The Assembly is asked whether it is of opinion that supporting tourism should be made a priority for the Island and be funded through an increase in tax on finance companies.**

**SIENNA SPRINGETT  
BEAULIEU**

### **REPORT**

Jersey is an island of diverse and vibrant culture. However, after COVID-19, Jersey has yet to reach pre-pandemic tourist levels - despite Guernsey reaching their goals. In June 2023, the visitor levels of Guernsey reached 81% (based on the visitor levels at the beginning of 2019), clearly displaying that Guernsey's tourism was on the road to recovery. This raises the question: Why is Jersey's recovery not the same?

Jersey was certainly prosperous, proven by pre-COVID statistics. In 2018 and 2019, the total number of visits increased by 6% to 770,686, which has been the largest number of visitors since 2002. Contrastingly, the latest data shows approximately 527,000 people visited Jersey in 2023 - this shows that between the years 2019 to 2023, the level of visitors has experienced a decrease by 31% - according to the Jersey government website.

Jersey accommodation registrations numbers have declined in recent years. With numbers of visitors reaching 10,500 in 2019 and dropping to 9,500 in 2022 - once again plummeting by 31% from 2019. This unpromising data shows to be concerning.

Jersey visitors have seen the increase in prices when visiting Jersey. In the case of a 3-person family paying £3,100 (including accommodation, flights and a hire car) during summer, compared to £5,300 for a summer holiday in 2022 (including accommodation, flights and a hire car). Understanding that business prices are out of the government's control, we must ensure that we are continuously attracting visitors to make these payments justifiable for tourists.

#### **Objectives and Ideas:**

With this unpromising data, the Jersey government must ensure and encourage the tourism industry to expand, as well as attracting the support of islanders, to provide a stable and vibrant community to boost the Jersey economy.

Our core ideas are to ensure our island is tourist friendly, an attractive destination, all whilst supporting local businesses.

Including a greater number of events and initiatives, such as:

- Small fairs
- Live music
- Outdoor dining
- Live shows
- Interisland small festivals - mainly publicised to England, Guernsey, Sark and France.
- Encouraging UK owned businesses to fill empty shops with 'Pop up Shops'

Increased publicity of such things is key to attracting as many people as possible. Companies, such as vibrant Jersey, are unknown to most, even the local community. Further investment into advertisement



from the government is crucial within the discussion of our tourism industry.

We strongly encourage the government to support these initiatives. Aiding the understanding of the context surrounding local businesses and investors, and their lack of confidence in the Jersey economy. We suggest that the Jersey government should supply funds to local businesses that are willing to take part in investing back into the Jersey economy and encourage them to expand their ideas, giving Jersey a more attractive image.

A way in which such a new scheme may improve tourism is the renewal of brownfield sites. Here, we can ensure that Jersey looks clean and vibrant, giving a pristine impression to locals and Jersey tourists. As well as sticking to cultural architecture (such as embracing small businesses along the coast), rather than modern eye sores and a dull town life.

**To support business we suggest that Jersey government:**

1. Provides grants to businesses who expand and or participate in these events and fairs.
2. Under certain circumstances, for the Jersey government to support businesses who have financially suffered significantly due their participation into this scheme.
3. The Jersey government covers the funds of advertisement in these new events.

To not discriminate against the new and smaller business in Jersey, allowing them to expand.

**Benefits:**

Its benefit would fundamentally increase the popularity of Jersey in the eyes of tourists. Additionally, this investment into tourism would benefit the community providing jobs for the youth, entertainment for the locals creating a more attractive environment for both the locals and tourists.

With this extension of entertainment, tourists are encouraged to stay longer on the island providing more wealth into the industry. Not only this, this encourages the locals to stay in Jersey, in particular the young adults of Jersey, promoting a more lively and vibrant new aspect of Jersey.

In addition, these new jobs and industries allow more summer employment the youth can be a part of, striving towards Jersey's aim of decreasing levels of crime in the youth.

**To meet these aims:**

We understand that a stable source of finances are needed for this investment. Therefore, we suggest an increase in tax brackets for finance companies. At its current rate, Jersey's corporation tax is charging the finance company 10%. Contrastingly, Jersey-based utility companies, oil importation companies and real estate are being charged with 20% taxes, suggesting that higher tax brackets on finance companies are within the government's means. Increasing the tax brackets for finance companies would allow investments in the tourism industry to not be a local burden, but instead an expense for Jersey's able finance industry, in order to support the locals and tourists.



## JERSEY YOUTH ASSEMBLY 2024

### PROPOSITION

The Assembly is asked whether it is of opinion that the Government should ban anyone born after 2009 from being able to purchase tobacco or vapes.

**TARA BATTRICK**  
**BEAULIEU (on behalf of Victoria College Jersey)**

### REPORT

We are asking the Assembly whether the Jersey government should follow in the footsteps of the UK by phasing out a generation of smokers, and take its own initiative with vapes, by restricting anyone born after 2009 from being able to purchase these substances.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced similar plans in 2023, saying he intends to raise the minimum age to buy tobacco by a year every year in England.

Smoking remains the biggest cause of preventable deaths in Jersey, with up to 1,000 hospital admissions linked to habit in 2020.

The following data has been taken from the most recent [Jersey Children and Young People Survey](#) –

- 20% of year 12 were occasional or regular smokers;
- the proportion of Year 12 young people who currently smoke appears to be trending upwards;
- nearly three-fifths (58%) of young people in Year 12 have tried e-cigarettes, with nearly three-tenths (29%) using them currently (either occasionally or regularly);
- the proportion of Year 12 young people that have tried e-cigarettes has risen from 42% in 2018 to 58% in 2021.

### **Vapes**

Despite laws against selling vapes to under-18s in Jersey, the [2021 Jersey Children and Young People Survey](#) found that 58% of 16 to 17-year-olds have tried e-cigarettes, with about a third using them occasionally or regularly. The Government announced plans in 2023 to ban disposable vapes, but this needs to go further.

- Change how Vapes are displayed in shops – should be under the counter instead of on display
- Legislate in relation to Vape packaging so doesn't look as appealing – less bright colours: children's packaging is usually colourful, bright same as vape packaging

### [What Are the Health Effects of Vaping?](#)

The health risks of vaping include:

- **addiction:** E-cigarettes contain nicotine, a drug that's highly addictive. You don't have to vape every day to get addicted.
- **anxiety and depression:** Nicotine makes anxiety and depression worse. It also affects memory, concentration, self-control, and attention, especially in developing brains.
- **becoming a smoker:** People who vape are more likely to start smoking regular (tobacco) cigarettes and may be more likely to develop other addictions in the future.
- **impotence:** There is some evidence that vaping can cause sexual dysfunction in men.



- **sleep problems**
- **exposure to cancer-causing chemicals**
- **chronic bronchitis**
- **lung damage that can be life-threatening**

Other health effects are possible that we don't yet know about. Vaping hasn't been around that long, so its health risks aren't all known.

## Smoking

The long term health problems of smoking are well documented – but it is worth highlighting that besides these long-term problems, the chemicals in cigarettes and other products also can affect the body quickly. Teen smokers can have many of these problems:

- **Bad breath.** Cigarettes leave smokers with a condition called halitosis, or lasting bad breath.
- **Bad-smelling clothes and hair.** The smell of stale smoke tends to last — not just on people's clothing, but on their hair, furniture, and cars. It's hard to get the smell of smoke out.
- **Trouble keeping up in sports.** Smokers usually can't compete well with nonsmokers. Physical effects of smoking, like a fast heartbeat, decreased circulation, and shortness of breath, harm sports performance.
- **Greater risk of injury and slower healing time.** Smoking hurts the body's ability to make collagen. So common sports injuries, such as damage to tendons and ligaments, will heal more slowly in smokers than nonsmokers.
- **Increased risk of illness.** Studies show that smokers get sick more with colds, flu, bronchitis, and pneumonia than nonsmokers. And people with some health conditions, like asthma, get sicker if they smoke (and often if they're just around people who smoke). Teens who smoke as a way to manage their weight often light up instead of eating. So their bodies can lack the nutrients needed to grow, develop, and fight off illness well.<sup>3</sup>

## Financial impact

The average 20-cigarette packet in Jersey is £10.32. People argue that if you stop a whole generation of people from buying nicotine products in Jersey the economic consequences would be dire. However, if people in Jersey were to spend less money on nicotine products they would have more money to spend on other products which will still contribute to the economy and could argue over time that people will be able to afford more in Jersey and may lead to an improved quality of life.

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<sup>3</sup> [Smoking \(for Teens\) | Nemours KidsHealth](#)



**JERSEY YOUTH ASSEMBLY 2024**  
**PROPOSITION**

**The Assembly is asked whether it is of opinion that Euthanasia should be legalised to provide individuals with the right to die with dignity.**

**MARIA STUGARIU**  
**HAUTLIEU**

**REPORT**

Euthanasia, at its core, revolves around the right of autonomy. By legalising it, we would empower individuals facing unbearable suffering to make their own end-of-life decisions, providing a compassionate option for terminally ill patients. The legality of euthanasia has been debated and considered, yet nothing has changed. It is time to engage in a thoughtful discussion on this matter, exploring the potential benefits and risks of legalising euthanasia and ultimately striving for a more humane and compassionate approach to end-of-life care.

The diagnosis of severe conditions is associated with a heightened risk of choosing to end one's life by suicide. One year after diagnosis, the rate of suicide was 21.6, with the highest rate from patients with ischemic heart disease, in which 225 per 100,000 end their lives within the first twelve months after diagnosis. Second to this are COPD patients, in which 208 per 100,000 diagnosed took their own lives. By legalising euthanasia, we can allow those who are continually suffering autonomy and allow them to die with dignity. A study carried out by the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics surveyed more than 500 adults in August 2020 on their views about the care of a patient who had one week to live. The study found high levels of support for euthanasia, with 79% of those surveyed saying they would like to have the option. Furthermore, slightly more than half said they would potentially choose euthanasia for themselves or a family member if they had the choice. This report maintains, 'This study indicates that a substantial proportion of the general community supports a range of options at the end of life, including some that are not currently offered in the UK.'

The national library of medicine conducted an experiment which aimed to investigate the effects of euthanasia on the bereaved family and friends which found that 10-20% of bereaved people will suffer from traumatic grief. They used 189 bereaved family members and close friends of terminally ill cancer patients who died by euthanasia and 316 bereaved family members and close friends of comparable cancer patients who died a natural death. They found that the bereaved family and friends of cancer patients who died by euthanasia had less traumatic grief symptoms, less current feeling of grief and less post-traumatic stress reactions than the family and friends of patients who died of natural causes. These results show that the patients aren't the only ones affected by euthanasia and show that even those closed to the patients are affected too.

Currently in 2024, according to the largest poll carried out on assisted dying, 75% of respondents say they would support changing the legal status regarding euthanasia. Moreover, more than half of Britons (52%) have personally considered traveling to Switzerland to seek euthanasia if they were terminally ill. However, less than 3 in 10 (28%) who considered it would be able to afford it, due to the cost skyrocketing to £15,000 in the last 5 years, this being the main deterrent for them.

Additionally, Jersey should consider legalising euthanasia to align with other countries within the Commonwealth. By doing so, we can uphold principles of human dignity, compassion, and individual autonomy, and respect the preferences of its citizens. Currently, Australia, through the organisation Exit International, and Canada, through Dying with Dignity Canada, carry out the practice. More than 6 in 10 people (63%) of the British public agree that legalising assisted dying would be safer than the current ban, whereas just 1 in 10 (11%) believe it would be less safe.



To conclude, the central reason why Jersey should legalise euthanasia centres around the principles of compassion, autonomy, and alleviating suffering. A change in law would highlight the importance of personal choice in matters of life and death, respect the dignity of individuals facing incurable and unbearable suffering, and provide a humane option for ending such suffering.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9760>

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2021-03-24-majority-uk-public-want-greater-choice-end-life-survey#:~:text=Meanwhile%2C%2079%25%20of%20those%20surveyed,if%20they%20had%20the%20choice.>

<https://www.dignityindying.org.uk/assisted-dying/public-opinion/#:~:text=We%20commissioned%20the%20largest%20poll,%20UK%2C%20with%20just%2014%25%20against>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC166123/#:~:text=Unnatural%20death%2C%20such%20as%20suicide,grief%20reactions%20in%20family%20members.&text=As%20euthanasia%20is%20also%20considered,euthanasia%20may%20induce%20traumatic%20grief>