HAUTLIEU SCHOOL: APPROVAL OF DRAWINGS (P.83/2001) - COMMENTS

Presented to the States on 19th June 2001 by the Finance and Economics Committee



STATES OF JERSEY

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Comments

The Finance and Economics Committee cannot, at this stage, support the proposition of the Education Committee relating to the approval of drawings for the proposed new Hautlieu School. Although it is aware that the States have approved the proposal to construct a new school, the Committee is greatly concerned at the projected out-turn cost for the project (now known to be £29.7 million) which it believes warrants further review.

The Committee is aware that a number of States members, under the auspices of the Committee of Inquiry into Building Costs, will shortly be visiting the United Kingdom in order to view a recently constructed school for 1,150 pupils, which is understood to have been completed at a significantly lower cost (reportedly £8 million). The Committee believes that i would be desirable for detailed analysis to be undertaken of that project and other similar schemes so that comparisons may be made with the Hautlieu School project before proceeding.

The Committee is of course aware that any delay could add to the cost of the project but believes, even at this late stage, that the opportunity for savings is potentially too great to be ignored.

This is particularly important at this time, when a number of projects put forward by other Committees cannot proceed due to a lack of available funding.