

STATES OF JERSEY



FULLY FUNDING EDUCATION OR TRAINING FOR ALL 16-18 YEAR OLDS (P.38/2024): AMENDMENT (P.38/2024 AMD.) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 11th July 2024
by the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Government has a [Common Strategic Policy](#) commitment to increase the provision of lifelong learning and skills development.

We recognise the importance of shaping and reforming further education and skills delivery in Jersey, and that adequate provision is integral to the future economic prosperity of the Island. We will prioritise the delivery of skills development in Jersey. This will include promoting apprenticeships, a series of targeted skills development schemes, and implementing sustainable Higher Education Student Finance. Increasing the provision of lifelong learning and skills delivery will ensure we develop the future workforce our Island requires, support the ambitions of the Future Economy Programme, and provide targeted support to ensure our young Islanders are able to access higher education.

Part A

Part A of the amendment requests the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning to undertake a review of education legislation and policy with a view to increasing the participation age in education or professional training for all young people up to the age of 18 by July 2025.

I have already confirmed to the proposer and the Assembly that I am committed to this piece of work, please refer to my answer to [OQ.19/2024](#). I have also reiterated this commitment to the proposer since the lodging of the proposition and before and after the lodging of this amendment.

The proposer and the Assembly will also be aware through the answer to [WQ.150/2024](#), that I will be publishing a Departmental Business Plan. I am pleased to confirm this will contain a clearly stated priority to progress work on the age of participation.

Part B

Part B of the proposition requests the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning to include any necessary long term additional funding within the Government Plan 2026-2029.

Including additional revenue funding within Government Plans is part of business as usual for Ministers and not something that requires affirmation by a States Assembly proposition and debate.

Summary

I would urge Members to reject this proposition as I have already publicly committed to this work and will soon be further confirming this in my departmental business plan. If any additional funding is required it is of course normal practice for Ministers to include this in proposed Government Plans.