

2018.10.09

**9 Deputy R.J. Ward of the Minister for Education regarding fees for Higher Education courses at Highlands College: [OQ.143/2018]**

Will the Minister confirm whether any additional monies from increased student fees for higher education courses at Highlands College this year only went directly to funding the costs of delivering higher education at the college?

**Senator T.A. Vallois (The Minister for Education):**

Apologies on behalf of my Assistant Minister, and in the interests of openness and transparency to advise the States that I do have a family member that works at Highlands. I think it is important to declare that. Yes, I have been advised that additional monies from increased student fees went directly to funding the costs of delivering higher education at the college.

**3.9.1 Deputy R.J. Ward:**

May I ask, is there is any monitoring of the effects of the fee increases on uptake of courses? In particular, those returning to higher education who may not qualify for funding of their courses in the future, particularly at a time when we want to train on-Island. Will you be monitoring whether there is the same uptake of courses given the increase in fees?

**Senator T. A. Vallois:**

Due to the recent changes to student finance, of course it is early days and we have so many bumps in the road with regards to the higher education new student financing system, so we are monitoring a lot of the issues that have come about but also the uptake or the not so much uptake and seeing where it is leading to. Of course, next year we will be looking at reviewing that and ensuring that we amend some of these issues that we have come across and also in terms of the maintenance for on- Island as well.

**Deputy R.J. Ward:**

Thank you for your direct answer to the first question. It is very welcome. We look forward to seeing the impact of this increase in resources for H.E. (higher education) funding Jersey University.