## WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND EDUCATION BY DEPUTY C.D. CURTIS OF ST. HELIER CENTRAL QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 3rd APRIL 2023 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON WEDNESDAY 12th APRIL 2023

## **Ouestion**

"Will the Minister advise –

- (a) whether University College Jersey degree courses have been cancelled;
- (b) how many courses have been cancelled; and
- (c) what she plans to do to rectify this situation?"

## Answer

- (a) The top-up BA (Hons) Business and Management degree programme due to start in September 2023 has unfortunately been cancelled due to low student demand. Every year, student application numbers are reviewed, and some programmes are temporarily discontinued. If skills and market demand change, the offer is updated to meet those demands. This is standard practice in Higher and Further Education Institutions here and in the U.K.
- (b) BA (Hons) Business and Management Degree is the only cancelled offer. BA Sports Coaching 1 year top-up will be fallowed for a year as there are zero applicants as at the end of March 2023.

The nine other degree level programmes are running.

(c) Students on the Foundation degree were counselled from the start of the 2022/23 academic year about the risk of the top-up year not being able to run. They were advised that it would be contingent on application numbers. They were repeatedly advised to submit applications to the college for the top-up year, if they had any intention to complete a further year. Many students have chosen to take employment offers.

Each student has been offered a tutorial to discuss alternative pathways. They were also informed they could speak directly to their personal tutor who has been available to them all year, or to the Head of Higher Education, as well as being signposted to the college's Careers and Employability service.

The Degree has an agreed articulation route to final year studies on a parallel programme at the University of Plymouth and – should a student wish to follow this route – they do not need to apply through UCAS. The programme team will be happy to support any student with whatever onward pathway they choose.

University College Jersey are developing more part-time routes, including a Business Higher Level Apprenticeship, but these do take time to receive the necessary approval and accreditation. Part-time routes are becoming more viable due to the students' ability to earn while they learn and preferring to study part-time. The Finance industry offers paid professional accreditation to employees, so young people often chose this route direct to employment and gain qualifications whilst employed.