WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES BY DEPUTY I. GARDINER OF ST. HELIER NORTH QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 8th JULY 2024 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 16th JULY 2024

Question

"In respect of the Government Care Leavers Offer, will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of the annual budget and expenditure for the period 2020 to 2024, including any increases in budget, and advise what plans, if any, he has to update the Care Leavers Offer, and if there are no such plans, explain why not?"

Answer

Below are the budget v actual costs for years 2020 - 2024. 2024 is the full year budget but the spend figure are the costs in the ledger from 01.01.24 - 30.06.24.

Year	Budget £	Actual Spend	Variance	
		£	£	
2020	327,000	86,624	240,376	
2021	486,000	483,561	2,439	
2022	511,000	564,635	-53,635	
2023	636,000	957,154	-321,154	
2024	699,000	327,371	371,629	01.01.26 -
				30.06.24

The increase in the budget provided each year accounts for the increase in the numbers of care leavers, which is currently at 118. It is expected by the end of December 2024 to rise to 127.

The offer is currently under review and Jersey Cares have been commissioned to consult with are leavers regarding the offer to support the review process. So far, there have a number of initiatives completed with care leavers and young people to gain feedback on the current published care leaver offer, but this work is not yet complete. The link to the care leavers offer is below and this sets out the current offer to a young person in Jersey identified as a care leaver.

Guide for Young People Leaving Care