

Connétable Steve Pallett
Chairman, Digital Skills Scrutiny Sub-Panel
Scrutiny Office, States Greffe
Morier House
St Helier
JE1 1DD

6th December 2013

Dear Connétable Pallett

Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel, Digital Skills Sub-panel, Digital Skills Review

Further to your request for a written submission, I provide below comments on Terms of Reference 6:

6 .With particular regard to Digital Jersey's e-government objectives and targets, to examine the existing and proposed provision for adult training and education to improve digital skills in Jersey.

The Departments experience with mature adult job seekers is that many lack the skills to use basic IT to apply for positions or use computers in the work place. The Department currently has provision to up skill jobseekers with a number of basic courses, including 'Intro to IT' and basic office applications.

However, it is noted that the emphasis of education throughout the document is about school aged children. There needs to be a greater emphasis for wider provision to the adult community. As an example, **p28** the section on 'Digital Learning Hub' concerns school students. There is only one reference to adult learners 'further developments will include courses for adult learners'.

One of the five Technical Action Groups (TAG) concerns 'Education and Skills' (**p9**). This group seems primarily involved in schooling with only a mention of 'developing training and skills programmes within the broader community'.

Further actions should be developed to support and encourage adults to acquire the skills needed for the digitally enabled and connected society and the future e-government provision. The Skills Executive will work with Digital Jersey to help develop this provision further.

Yours sincerely


Senator Francis Le Gresley
Minister