

8th December 2017



6 Tunnel Street, St. Helier,
Jersey, JE2 4LU
Tel: (01534) 888103

Deputy S Y Mézec
Chairman
Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel
Scrutiny Office
States Greffe
Morier House
St Helier JE1 1DD

Dear Sir

Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel

Help A Jersey Child would like to thank the Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel for the opportunity to express their views.

Some general comments

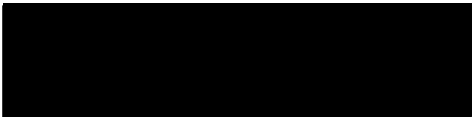
Our charity primarily support children through their parents in the form of funding for various items to help improve children's quality of life. Parents or professionals (including social workers) make applications requesting funding ranging from requests to fund nursery places for 2 years olds, or play schemes for all age children identified as vulnerable in some way. Currently it seems that Jersey does not have a coordinated approach to supporting vulnerable 2 year olds or indeed a play strategy that would enhance the lives of all Jersey children and young people.

Having been in existence for over a decade we are surprised and concerned at the level of hardship and poverty cases that continues to come to us. Although always hopeful, this makes us question the degree to which these recommendations will begin to challenge and change the structural inequalities apparent in our lovely island.

We note in the report a huge investment (6.2) and increase in manpower. Whilst this is positive we would like to draw attention to the need for more of a focus on a government/civil servants creating conditions that create certain living standards that are conducive to social wellbeing for all children in the context of family life.

We are concerned that although we are set to have a Childrens commissioner, a Childrens Rights officer and a Childrens Advocacy service there seems to be a lack of focus on parents' rights, parents advocacy and overall family policies that will continue to help Jersey Children grow confidently and securely in the context of their families and out of the care system.

Yours faithfully



Robin Rumboll
Chairman