

Update from the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture

This is the first in a series of planned updates to inform the community about the work of the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture and the services provided under its strategic and political direction. We will refer to these services collectively as Education, Sport and Culture (ESC).



The Committee for Education, Sport & Culture is committed to building and protecting our reputation as a well-managed, modern States Committee delivering a high standard of service to the Bailiwick's learners, families, our service users, the wider community and businesses.

The Committee aims to support the delivery of our vision and key priorities by:

- Enhancing the reputation of Education Services, Culture and Heritage, Sport and Recreation, Island Archives, the Institute of Health & Social Care Studies and all other services under the control of the Committee for Education, Sport & Culture by promoting and celebrating our successes and achievements as well as those of our schools and services
- Improving the public's understanding of the work of our services and our aspirations for the future
- Providing a flow of quality and accurate public information to help ensure that the public is properly informed of all the relevant facts
- Demonstrating our commitment to the core principles of Good Governance

To assist in achieving these aims, the Committee intends to publish quarterly updates on the main points of discussion at its Committee meetings and any decisions made or progress achieved.

If you have any feedback on this document please send it to educationsportandculture@gov.gg

Committees and sub-committees

Following the General Election and election of members to the individual committees, the new Committee for Education, Sport & Culture had its first meeting on 24th May. At this meeting members were elected onto a range of sub-committees and school committees as follows:

President, Deputy Paul le Pelley

School Committees: Castel Primary, Notre Dame du Rosaire Catholic Primary, St Mary & St Michael Catholic Primary, Vale Primary, Grammar School & Sixth Form Centre.

Sub-Committees: La Mare de Carteret Schools' Project Board, Les Beaucamps High School Project Board, Guille-Allès Library Council, Liberation Day Committee, Museum Management Board, Great War Working Party, Guernsey Language Commission, Blue Plaques Committee

Vice-President, Deputy Carl Meerveld

School Committees: Hautes Capelles Primary, La Mare de Carteret Primary, La Mare de Carteret High

Sub-Committees: College of Further Education Governing Body, College of Further Education Project Board, La Mare de Carteret Schools' Project Board, Les Beaucamps High School Project Board, Beau Sejour Leisure Centre Management Board

Member, Deputy David de Lisle

School Committees: Notre Dame du Rosaire Catholic Primary, St Mary & St Michael Catholic Primary, St Martin's Primary, St Anne's School, Grammar School & Sixth Form Centre

Sub-Committees: College of Further Education Project Board, Joint Advisory Committee, SACRE (Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education)

Member, Deputy Andrea Dudley-Owen

School Committees: La Houquette Primary School, Les Voies School, St Sampson's High and Le Murier Schools, Blanchelande College Board

Sub-Committees: Joint Advisory Committee, Skills Guernsey, SACRE, Guernsey Training Agency, Guernsey Arts Commission, St James Council, Guernsey Language Commission

Member, Deputy Marc Leadbeater

School Committees: Amherst Primary and Vauvert Primary, Forest Primary and Le Rondin, Les Beaucamps High School

Sub-Committees: Youth Commission, Guernsey Sports Commission

Between 24th May and 6th September there have been 8 committee meetings and 4 induction workshops. The main areas of discussion during the committee meetings include:

Support for Island Games 2021

The Committee voted unanimously in favour of the Policy Letter drafted by the previous Culture and Leisure Department to support the bid by Guernsey Island Games Association for Guernsey to host the 2021 Island Games.

This Policy Letter was debated and approved by the Assembly on June 8th. The full propositions are available [here](#) and include the provision of financial support by way of the operating surplus from the running of an Island Games lottery and funding from the Sports Loans Fund.

Entitlement to free pre-school

The Committee has reviewed the previous States resolutions with regard to the introduction of a universal entitlement to 15 hours of free pre-school education for all children in the year before they start school.

This review has involved various discussions with representatives from the Guernsey Pre-School Learning Association and other private pre-school providers.

The Committee is proposing to make some changes to the previously approved scheme and will be bringing amended proposals back to the Assembly for approval in due course.

The Committee's preferred option is to provide a scheme where private providers are paid a flat hourly rate but may charge parents a 'top-up' fee at their discretion.

In the interim, the current scheme where providers will receive £5.90 per hour for each child placed at their nursery or pre-school for 15 hours a week, term-time only, will operate for two terms starting from January 2017. For these two terms providers will not be able to charge a top-up fee.

Information about this interim scheme is available at www.gov.gg/preschool

A new Quality Standards Framework will be introduced from January 2017 which has been developed jointly with colleagues at Health and Social Care and replaces the previous regulatory minimum standards for Day Nurseries and Pre-Schools. All providers will be supported to work towards producing a self-evaluation report against these new standards from September 2017.

Future Structure of Secondary and Post 16 Education

Members of the Committee for Education, Sport and Culture believe that they were elected into office on the clear understanding that they were looking to review the previous States decisions of March 2016 relating to Education and that is exactly what the Committee is doing. It is no secret that the Committee has not been able to reach full agreement in all areas although there are some where we do concur. We are working hard to bring these differing views together into a

coherent Policy Letter to bring before the Assembly in the near future. As part of its deliberations, the Committee has met with a delegation of headteachers, organised a survey of education professionals to gauge their views on selection and met with a group of teachers who carried out their own survey and were concerned about suggestions of using continuous assessment as an alternative means of selection for admission to secondary school. The Committee has also had two workshops to identify ideas and prioritise those which it wishes to pursue.

The Committee is in the process of finalising its proposals which it intends to bring before the Assembly in due course.

College of Further Education

The Committee has agreed to an implementation timeline for the Outcome Agreement for the College of Further Education as part of the move to a new governance structure.

This Outcome Agreement will govern the relationship between Education Services and the College of Further Education and set out expectations of what the College will deliver in return for the funding it receives.

The Committee is also continuing to explore options for rationalising the College's facilities from the current 3 sites to 2 and the master-planning for eventually moving onto a single site.

Maintenance and Improvement works to La Mare de Carteret Schools

The Committee has stated that it is committed to rebuilding La Mare de Carteret Schools and will be bringing proposals back to the Assembly in due course.

In the interim, the Committee has expedited further improvement and maintenance works to the buildings to ensure that the teaching and

learning conditions for the staff, children and young people remain the best we can deliver within the funding available until such time as the new schools are open.

Works over the half term and summer breaks include:

- Roofing
- Windows and doors
- Essential carpentry
- Ceiling replacements
- Essential health and safety works (e.g. science labs)
- External works
- Creation of additional Communication Base
- New furniture and equipment

The Committee Budget

The Committee has had a range of discussions and briefings on the management accounts for 2016 and budget proposals for 2017 and beyond. These discussions have included initial suggestions on how to increase income, how to achieve the required budget cuts (just under 13% over 3 years) – including ways of doing things differently such as partnering with Parent Teacher Associations to upgrade Castel Primary School swimming pool.

This remains a priority workstream for the Committee.

Other decisions/discussions

The above sections highlight the main areas of discussion and debate for the new Committee over the last four months. Other decisions include:

- Supported the ongoing work to implement a new Bailiwick of Guernsey Curriculum from September 2017
- Supported the request for two form entry in Y3 at La Houquette and the appointment of an additional teacher

- Took the next steps towards moving the GTA from a Trust to a LBG
- Began a review of the Education Vision
- Supported the re-use of St Sampson's Infant School buildings by Every Child Our Future who will be supporting the most vulnerable children and families through a series of programmes and initiatives including a supported nursery and pre-school
- Considered a range of postgraduate appeals for funding
- Supported Headteachers and Officers' decision to change recording term time absences of pupils – from Sep 16 any absence for the purpose of a holiday will be noted as unauthorised.
- Agreed Routine Capital projects for 2017 and returned £1.6m of capital funding;
- Met with the St Paul's regeneration committee and withdrew planning application

Induction Workshops

The Committee has also been working through a comprehensive schedule of induction workshops and visits to ensure members are fully briefed on all areas of the mandate of the Committee for Education, Sport & Culture.

During their first 4 months in office the following areas have been covered:

- School/Department Inspection Process
- Strategy Mapping
- Administration – School Admission Process, 11+ process, appeals, transport management
- Early Years to Key Stage 5 – progress and attainment
- Secondary & Tertiary Education
- Beau Sejour
- Leisure Services
- Candie Museum & Art Gallery
- Castle Cornet Museums

This schedule of induction workshops and visits is continuing.

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