

**REPLY BY THE PRESIDENT OF
THE COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION, SPORT & CULTURE
TO QUESTIONS ASKED PURSUANT TO RULE 14 OF THE RULES OF
PROCEDURE BY DEPUTY SASHA KAZANTSEVA-MILLER**

(Question 1 Preamble)

The 2021 policy paper on the Secondary and Post 16 Education reorganisation states on p. 52 that “during the summer of 2022 the Les Varendes pool area would be repurposed to provide facilities for the Music Centre, Youth Commission and Share”.

Question 1

Are the works to repurpose the swimming pool at Les Varendes on track to complete in the summer of 2022 as stated in the policy paper?

Answer

Work to repurpose the swimming pool at Les Varendes is underway and is currently in the design stage. It is not now expected to complete this summer. The timeline for this work was revised as part of the wider amendment to the Programme Timeline, which was the subject of a [media statement](#) issued on 18th February 2022 and was commented on in the [President’s Update Statement](#) to the Assembly during the 27th April 2022 States Meeting. The new timeline for this work aligns with the overarching plan to have completed work on the education estate associated with the 2021 policy letter, in 2025 (although the repurposing of the swimming pool at Les Varendes will complete in advance of that date – see the reply to Question 2 below).

Question 2

If the project is not on track, what is the new expected timeline for completion?

Answer

The project to refurbish the swimming pool at Les Varendes is expected to be completed in time for the end of 2023, allowing the users of the repurposed building to move in during the 2023 Christmas break.

Question 3

What is the capital cost earmarked for the project?

Answer

The capital cost has been estimated at £2.3m and this rises to £2.8m including contingency. To date £2.5m of funding has been released.

Please note that figure this does not include the costs related to the decant process which is covered by a separate funding stream.

Question 4

Is the plan to repurpose the pool for the purposes of the three services remains the same or have there been any changes made to it, such as repurposing it for additional uses?

Answer

There has been no scope change to the proposed use of the repurposed swimming pool area at Les Varendes.

The process of validating the future users' requirements has recently been completed, and the Programme Team will be working with an architect to ensure that the detailed design delivers the optimal use of both this area of the building and the wider campus at Les Varendes. This process of developing a detailed architectural plan on the basis of clear and validated requirements is standard and good construction practice. While it is possible that this could lead to refinement of how specific areas of the buildings at Les Varendes are used, we do not anticipate that it will lead to a change to the overall anticipated use of this campus.

(Question 5 preamble)

The policy paper also states on p. 41 that "Other occupants at Les Ozouets site, including the Music Service, Youth Commission and SHARE, will also be provided suitable alternative accommodation".

Question 5

What type of accommodation will the three services be expected to move to, when will they need to move and where would such accommodation be located?

Answer

The permanent future home for these three Services is the campus at Les Varendes, with the current plan being that they would be based in the repurposed swimming pool area. The rest of this answer discusses the interim accommodation that these three services will use prior to moving to their permanent home.

In order to progress with the construction of the new facilities at the Les Ozouets Campus to enable the start of their use in 2025, it is necessary to vacate the current facilities (other than those based in the Princess Royal Centre for Performing Arts) prior to the end of 2022. For many of these Services, this requires that they move to new accommodation during the current academic summer holidays. Where a permanent home is not ready for any Service (as is the case for those Services scheduled to move into the repurposed swimming pool area at Les Varendes), interim accommodation is made available.

The details of this interim accommodation for the three Services in question is as follows:

The Music Service is in the process of moving to additional and refurbished facilities at Les Varendes and will also be extending its use of the Princess Royal Centre for Performing Arts during the interim period.

The Youth Commission is currently relocating to various facilities at Les Beaucamps High School. The Playscheme is being delivered from Les Ozouets over the summer and will decant to Les Beaucamps later in the year.

The SHARE (Sexual Health & Relationships Education) Team successfully relocated to a mobile unit situated at La Mare de Carteret High School during June.

Question 6

How long are the services expected to remain in alternative accommodation?

Answer

The three services in question are planned to remain in the interim accommodation until the work to repurpose the swimming pool area at Les Varendes is complete. As is noted in the response to question 2, it is expected that these Services will relocate to their permanent future home at the end of 2023.

Date of receipt of the Question: 21st July 2022
Date of Reply: 5th August 2022