

Independent School Funding Review

CP19.05.713

Children, Young People, Education and Skills Department

5/24/2019

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1 Introduction & Background

1.1 Government of Jersey

The Government of Jersey (GoJ) is the government (www.gov.je) of the Island of Jersey and is responsible for the management of the Island's finances and operation of its public services. Jersey does not sit within the European Union but as a Public Sector body it applies the principle of transparent procurement practices in accordance within the boundaries of their own laws and financial regulations.

The Government employs in the region of 6,500 staff and is currently organised into the following Departments: -

- Chief Operating Office
- Children, Young People, Education and Skills
- Customer and Local Services
- Growth, Housing and Environment
- Health and Community Services
- Justice and Home Affairs
- Office of the Chief Executive
- States Treasurer and Exchequer
- Strategic Policy, Performance and Population
- Non-Ministerial

The functions of the Departments follow similar roles to the UK Government but on a smaller scale, with diverse requirements.

1.2 Project Background

The Government of Jersey's Council of Ministers has published its Common Strategic Policy (CSP) for this political term. This has been duly considered, amended and agreed by the States of Jersey.

The Common Strategic Policy details five strategic aims of this Government. The first of these is:

"We will put children first"

This is given further definition in the document:

"We will do this by protecting and supporting children, by improving their educational outcomes and by involving and engaging children in decisions that affect their everyday lives."

The headline measures by which the success in achieving this strategic aim are also defined:

"What we will achieve.

As a result of our actions during our term of office, we want all children to:

• Grow up safely, feeling part of a loving family and a community that cares

- Live healthy lives, enjoying the best health and wellbeing possible
- Learn and achieve, by having the best start in life and going on to fulfil their potential
- Be valued and involved in the decisions that affect their everyday lives

• Be able to attend schools that are well-resourced, including good levels of financial headroom so that schools can positively support the achievement of the best outcomes for all children."

The financing of schools needs urgent review. Provisional evidence from targeted reviews of key aspects of the funding system suggests that the current funding formulae are not fit for purpose. The evidence base includes reviews of the Secondary Schools' Funding Formula; the funding of Special Educational Needs (SEN) in mainstream schools; and the recently established reviews of the Primary Schools' Funding Formula and the funding of Special Schools (which is allocation-based, not formula derived).

In summary, it is considered that the system is facing three core challenges in a changing educational landscape:

- 1. Increased demands on schools: including a new curriculum, new assessment and qualifications frameworks, increased governance expectations (eg GDPR, FoI, cyber security), and increased accountability.
- 2. More complex challenges facing children, young people and families, and the support these groups require, including for significant increases of mental health challenges and wider social and emotional needs; new arrivals in schools (many new to the English language); the impact of poverty on some families; and advances in medical science allowing higher survival rates for children with complex needs.
- 3. Increased costs, including provision for 1., and 2., above, but also increases in utility and other fixed costs (well above RPI) and wage inflation in the various staff groups working in schools.

A full and independent review of school funding arrangements is required to ensure that the Common Strategic objective to 'put children first' is realised and, specifically, to see that they will 'be able to attend schools that are well-resourced, including good levels of financial headroom so that schools can positively support the achievement of the best outcomes for all children'.

Indicative Key dates are

Expression of Interest	June 2019
Invitation to Tender Process	July 2019
Consultant Appointment	August 2019
Available to commence work	September 2019
Submission of 1 st Draft report	November 2019
Submission/Presentation of Final Report	By 31 st December 2019
and Recommendations	

1.3 Background Documentation

https://www.gov.je/Education/Pages/default.aspx

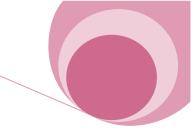
Common Strategic Policy <u>https://statesassembly.gov.je/assemblyreports/2019/r.11-</u>2019%20small%20amd%20page%205.pdf?_ga=2.263930956.1769295177.1550485357-2024025190.1543230562]

1.4 Key Deliverable /Driver

To complete and provide within timescales noted above, an independent school funding review of Jersey's education system. This will provide options for the leadership team regarding prioritisation and detail of amendments and additions to current practice.

Our clear vision for the objectives of the review are:-

- 1. Completion of the current review of the secondary school funding formula.
- 2. Appraisal of the work to date on Special Educational Needs Funding in mainstream education.
- 3. Broaden school funding formula review to include primary school education.
- 4. Broaden school funding formula review to include special schools and additional and alternative provision (currently not funded through a formula).
- 5. Review of 16-18 school and college funding, in the context of existing 6th Form provision and Ministerial plans to consider the extension of the school participation age to 18 years.
- 6. Review expenditure of staffing and non-staffing costs (headroom) to ensure an optimum use of funding in schools.
- 7. Review current resource provision for Jersey Premium (JP), English as an Additional Language (EAL) and other targeted funding streams.
- 8. Review of grant funding to the Government and private fee-paying sector, as currently structured, assessing the equity of funding for single-sex schools.
- 9. Review of the efficacy of introducing a three+ year school budget planning cycle and the impact of the disjoin between the academic and financial years.
- 10. A longer term analysis of funding for a potentially non-selective school system.



Timescales

This review must be completed by the end of Q4 2019 (ie 31/12/19).

In scope

- All Government schools, including school-based nursery provision.
- Grant-funded private schools.
- Additional Resource Centres (ARCs).
- All 16-18 provision in the Island.
- The provision (and definitions of scale of need) for pupils with English as an Additional Language (EAL).
- Alternative provision including for looked after children (LAC), those educated other than at school (EOTAS), students in need of an adapted part-time / full-time provision and school refusers (long term absence including due to social emotional mental health (SEMH).
- The 14+ selective transfer system and the impact of pupil transfer on year 10/11 options and funding commitments.
- Jersey context on pay and reward.

Not in scope

- Funding of early years childcare and education within the private, voluntary and independent sectors, including the Nursery Education Fund (NEF).
- Funding of services to schools provided by Government of Jersey departments.

1.5 Legal Requirements for working within Jersey

Bidders and the successful supplier must ensure they are compliant to all legal requirements for working in Jersey and we would emphasise the importance that the successful supplier and their staff are fully and appropriately licenced to work in Jersey <u>https://www.gov.je/Working/WorkPermits/LicencesWorkJersey/Pages/index.aspx</u>

2.1 Overview

Based upon the high level requirements set out in Section 1 of this document, the Government of Jersey is seeking expression of interest/pre-qualification proposal to enable us to select suitable qualified and experienced consultants who can bid via Invitation to Tender to provide the required independent review. We are interested in working with a partner or consortium that can offer and demonstrate innovation and informed subject matter experience and knowledge gained from within Europe (including the UK) or globally. Interested parties will be able to evidence best practice, exemplar and realistically achievable options and solutions to the school funding challenge.

Successful potential bidders will be invited to submit a full and detailed response to an Invitation of Tender to be issued July 2019 for return August 2019 to enable a 1st September 2019 or sooner start.

2.2 Expression of Interest/Pre-Qualification Requirements

Information required to demonstrate and evidence your expression of Interest/prequalification should include

- Written Expression of Interest that should not exceed 2,000/2,500 words or equivalent that:-
 - Evidences your track record and experience of delivering this type of review and to the scale and within the time period as detailed throughout Section 1
 - Indicates the calibre of the representatives that you would propose to carry out the review
 - Summarises at high level your methodology/work approach to delivering the report and recommendations
 - Informs us of the capacity of your company (people with skills and capability) to deliver a review of this size
 - Indicates the amount and type of GOJ resource/support you would require if successful in being appointed
 - Summarises the detail of two relevant reference sites/studies completed within the last 3 years (additional/separate to written EOI submission see below)
- Confirmation of your availability to provide the resource/ report within the required timeframes.
- Supply of Expression of Interest Contact Details (see below)

Expression of Interest and Pre-Qualification				
Expressions of Interest	Your Contact Details			
Name:				
Company:				
Company number:				
Address:				
Telephone:				
Email address:				
Website:				

Reference Sites

To further illustrate your company's experience in providing this type of review indicated, in the last three years or from inception of the Organisation please nominate reference contacts

1	Organisation Name
	Organisation Jurisdiction/ Educational Services provided / Size
	Summary of details of Review Undertaken, duration (days) , size of team used, contract value and summary of subsequent outcome of your review
2	Organisation Name
	Organisation Jurisdiction/ Educational Services provided / Size
	Summary of details of Review Undertaken, duration (days) , size of team used, contract value and summary of subsequent outcome of your review