

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

19th March, 2025

Proposition No. P.2025/26

Committee for Education, Sport & Culture

BLANCHELANDE COLLEGE, ELIZABETH COLLEGE & THE LADIES' COLLEGE:
FUTURE FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

AMENDMENT

Proposed by: Deputy A C Dudley-Owen

Seconded by: Deputy S P Haskins

To delete propositions 1 to 4 and substitute therefor:

"1. To agree the following in its entirety:

- to reduce the financial support paid by the States of Guernsey to Blanchelande College, Elizabeth College and The Ladies' College ("the Colleges") over the academic years 2026/2027 to 2030/2031 inclusive, adjusted annually by RPIX (as illustrated in Figure 28 in section 17 of the Policy Letter) such that no financial support shall be payable to the Colleges from the start of the 2031/2032 academic year onwards; and
- that the resultant financial support to the Colleges is distributed to the Colleges in each academic year based on the number of qualifying students in Years 7 to 13 in each College (as described in paragraph 17.3 of the Policy Letter); and
- to reinvest in the fully States-maintained education system a proportion of the resultant revenue savings as set out in figure 30 in section 17 of the Policy Letter, with the remaining revenue savings contributing to Reducing the Cost of Public Services, in accordance with Resolution 28 of the States of Deliberation in respect of the States of Guernsey Annual Budget for 2025¹.

Or, only if proposition 1 does not carry,

¹ [Billet d'État No XIX dated 23rd October 2024 - Resolutions made on 8th November 2024](#)

2. To agree the following in its entirety:

- to reduce the financial support paid by the States of Guernsey to Blanchelande College, Elizabeth College and The Ladies' College ("the Colleges") over the seven academic years from 2026/2027 to 2032/2033 inclusive by 4% annually, whilst adjusting for RPIX, as set out in the table in the explanatory note, such that in 2032/33 the total amount payable will be equivalent to 75.1% of the grant at the end of the current agreement in real terms; and
- that the grant shall be based on the number of pupils multiplied by the per pupil funding figure in the table in the explanatory note, with a maximum funding equivalent in any given academic year of 1,256 pupils; and
- that the resultant financial support to the Colleges is distributed to the Colleges in each such academic year based either on the number of qualifying students in Years 7 to 13 in each College (as described in paragraph 17.3 of the Policy Letter) or on such basis as is otherwise unanimously agreed by the Colleges and reported in advance of the payment period to the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture, for the purpose of delivering education for students in Years 7 to 13; and
- to reinvest in the fully States-maintained education system one half of the resultant revenue savings subject to a case being made to the Policy & Resources Committee by the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture, with the remaining revenue savings contributing to Reducing the Cost of Public Services, in accordance with Resolution 28 of the States of Deliberation in respect of the States of Guernsey Annual Budget for 2025²; and
- to direct the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture to return to the States with proposals for a new funding arrangement for the academic years 2033/34 onwards, within five years of the commencement of the arrangements described above. Such proposals should have particular regard to progress with the suggested partnership arrangement between the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture and the Colleges, so that the value of cooperation and joint working can be properly recognised and financially rewarded.

Or, only if proposition 2 does not carry,

² [Billet d'État No XIX dated 23rd October 2024 - Resolutions made on 8th November 2024](#)

3. To agree the following in its entirety:

- to maintain financial support paid by the States of Guernsey to Blanchelande College, Elizabeth College and The Ladies' College ("the Colleges") based on a per pupil model the value of which is set by the per pupil funding for the 2025/26 academic year, with the maximum financial support per year not exceeding the total payable for the 2025/26 academic year, with the subsidy each year to be calculated using the number of qualifying students (as described in paragraph 17.3 of the Policy Letter); and
- that the resultant financial support to the Colleges is distributed to the Colleges in each such academic year based on the number of qualifying students in Years 7 to 13 in each College (as described in paragraph 17.3 of the Policy Letter).

Or, only if proposition 3 does not carry,

4. To agree the following in its entirety:

- that Blanchelande College, Elizabeth College and The Ladies' College ("the Colleges") are an integral, valued and valuable part of the educational ecosystem; and accordingly;
- that the Colleges' stability is in the interests of the island, students and their families; and accordingly;
- to enable the Colleges to effectively forward plan, any financial support by the States of Guernsey to the Colleges should be on a rolling basis until such time as reasonable notice is given to terminate such financial support; and
- to maintain financial support to the Colleges based on a per pupil model the value of which is set by the per pupil funding for the 2025/26 academic year adjusted annually by RPIX, with the maximum financial support per year not exceeding the total payable for the 2025/26 academic year adjusted annually by RPIX, with the subsidy each year to be calculated using the number of qualifying students (as described in paragraph 17.3 of the Policy Letter) on the 31st October in the preceding academic year; and
- that the resultant financial support to the Colleges is distributed to the Colleges in each such academic year based either on the number of qualifying students in Years 7 to 13 in each College (as described in paragraph 17.3 of the Policy Letter) or on such basis as is otherwise unanimously agreed by the Colleges and reported in advance of the payment period to the Committee

for Education, Sport & Culture, for the purpose of delivering education for students in Years 7 to 13; and

- that the Key Performance Indicators set out in the resultant agreement between the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture and each of the Colleges should include assessments of students' attainment and progress; and
- that the resultant financial support may only be reduced or withdrawn after approval by the States of Deliberation and with five years' notice to the Colleges.

Or, only if proposition 4 does not carry,

5. To agree the following in its entirety:

- to maintain the financial support paid by the States of Guernsey to Blanchelande College, Elizabeth College and The Ladies' College ("the Colleges") at the level in place for the 2025/2026 academic year for a further seven academic years (i.e. for the academic years 2026/2027 to 2032/2033 inclusive), adjusted annually by RPIX (as illustrated in Figure 31 in section 17 of the Policy Letter); and
- that, conditional on a College continuing to meet, in all material respects, its agreed metrics as set out in the funding agreement for the academic years 2026/2027 to 2032/2033 inclusive, the States of Guernsey shall continue to pay financial support to that College for a further seven academic years (i.e. from 2033/2034 to 2039/2040 inclusive); and
- that the financial support is paid to the Colleges for each of the seven academic years from 2033/2034 to 2039/2040 inclusive at the level in place for the 2032/2033 academic year, adjusted annually by RPIX (as illustrated in Figure 32 in section 17 of the Policy Letter); and
- that the resultant financial support to the Colleges is distributed to the Colleges in each such academic year based either on the number of qualifying students in Years 7 to 13 in each College (as described in paragraph 17.3) or on such basis as is otherwise unanimously agreed by the Colleges and reported in advance of the payment period to the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture, for the purpose of delivering education for students in Years 7 to 13; and
- that a new agreement between the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture and such Colleges (for the seven academic years from 2033/2034 to

2039/2040 inclusive) is entered into by no later than 31st August 2031, on materially the same terms as the funding agreement for the academic years 2026/2027 to 2032/2033 inclusive.

6. To agree that the resultant States' financial support for the Colleges is implemented by an agreement between the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture and each of the Colleges to reflect the above decisions, ensuring such agreement broadly reflects the terms of the current agreement with regard to the Conditions of Grant Aid, Health & Safety Compliance and Quality Assurance, Safeguarding Children, Key Performance Indicators and Performance Review, and Maintaining Provision to the Colleges (see Appendix 2 of the Policy Letter) and, in relation to the agreement commencing in the academic year 2026/2027, to execute that agreement with each College by no later than 30 November 2025.
7. To direct the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture to develop and agree in consultation with the Colleges, and in consultation with other stakeholders as necessary, a partnership arrangement with the Colleges for the benefit of the island's children of secondary school age, to take effect as soon as is practicable and by no later than the date of the expiry of the funding agreement that commences in the academic year 2026/2027 arising from proposition 3 above. (noting, for the avoidance of doubt, that the partnership arrangement shall not include any obligation requiring the States to provide financial support to the Colleges, other than that arising from the above propositions).

Or, only if proposition 7 does not carry,

8. To agree that both the educational provision for pupils on the island and the island's wider economy will benefit from, and be enhanced by, collaborative working between the States' sector and the independent sector; and that, in building collaborative relationships between the States' sector and each of Blanchelande College, Elizabeth College and The Ladies' College (the "Colleges"), there is the potential for additional opportunities and experiences to be developed that will improve the outcomes for all school age pupils on the island; and accordingly:
 - to direct the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture (the "Committee") to:
 - encourage and support each of the Executive Principal of the States' Secondary School Partnership and the Principal of a States' High School to work in partnership with the Principal of a College to enable partnership working to develop between a High School and a College (i.e., "partnered schools") at the Principal level, and at the governing board (or equivalent) level to support the establishment of

the independent governance model for the States' secondary schools; and

- identify ways in which the partnered schools and the Sixth Form Centre may work together collaboratively to establish shared educational experiences and opportunities for the benefit of all secondary age children on the island; and
 - to direct the Committee to engage with stakeholders in the States' education sector, the Colleges and others as necessary, to enable these groups to explore together potential opportunities to develop collaborative projects between the States' sector and the independent sector, with the aim of mutually beneficial outcomes for all school age pupils on the island; and
 - to direct the Committee to include in its Education Strategy Annual Report (or other similar report) for the academic year 2025/2026 and then annually thereafter, a summary of the collaborative work and/or opportunities that have been completed, are being undertaken or are planned between the States' education sector and the Colleges.
9. To direct the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture to present to the States no later than the end of the academic year 2025/2026 for implementation in 2027/28, a series or range of options to introduce a bursary or open access programme to Blanchelande College, Elizabeth College and The Ladies' College ("the Colleges") in secondary education for students in Years 7 to 13, allocated between the Colleges and subject to agreement with each College in respect of the number of pupils and admissions policy applicable to the funded places. The range of options must include an option to provide financial assistance by way of a sliding scale of up to 100% of fees according to a means test based on family circumstances for at least 30 places per annum. The range of options presented shall allow for variations of the total number of places to be funded, covering a range of revenue costs and the degree to which each option seeks to open access to the Colleges up to pupils from all backgrounds."

Rule 4(1) Information

- a) The Committee confirms that propositions 1, 2, 3, 6, and 7 contribute to the delivery of the Government Work Plan 2023-2025 by including proposals that generate real-terms recurring savings and enable the reallocation of funding against the Government's strategic portfolio including extant strategies and plans. Moreover, these propositions fulfil, or move towards fulfilling, the resolutions of the States, through their decisions on the removal of selection by ability (11+) and the need to reduce the cost of public services. These policy decisions (or objectives) are achieved through the Committee's original

propositions 1, 3 and 4 (propositions 1, 6 and 7 of this Amendment), and to a lesser extent by those proposed via Amendments 2 and 3, which are aligned with the Education Strategy (endorsed by the States through the Government Work Plan).

The Committee does not consider that Propositions 4, and 5 contribute in the same way as described above, as they fail to realise any material savings for reinvestment. In perpetuating the grant and maintaining its real terms value, they do not move towards fulfilling the resolutions of the States, through their decisions on the removal of selection by ability (11+) and the need to reduce the cost of public services.

The Committee considers that the prescriptive nature of proposition 8 does not allow for an overarching strategic policy direction to be developed collaboratively, and a lack of strategic policy direction risks work being undertaken that is not aligned with the Government Work Plan and the overarching policy objectives of the States. The prescriptive nature of this proposition runs contrary to the States' principle of subsidiarity, in that it is not the role of the States of Deliberation to make highly operationally prescriptive decisions. Moreover, does not take into account the role of the Education Devolution & Delegation Investigatory & Advisory Committee, whose mandate includes "*consulting with relevant stakeholders across the public, private and third sectors...*" and it fails to respect the autonomy to be afforded to the States Education Governance Boards.

The Committee considers that proposition 9 runs contrary to the policy direction of the States, through their decisions on the removal of selection by ability (11+).

- b) In preparing propositions 1, 5, 6, and 7 consultation has been undertaken directly by the Committee with the Boards of Governors, Principals and Bursars of Elizabeth College, The Ladies' College and Blanchelande College.

The Proposers and Seconders of the Amendments that have given rise to propositions 2, 3, 4, 8 and 9 have confirmed on the face of those Amendments that they have consulted with the Colleges in respect of them. The Committee has not undertaken separate consultation in respect of these propositions as it seeks only to ensure there is a consolidated set of propositions to support debate.

The Committee has consulted with the Proposers of Amendments 1 to 5 who have each confirmed that they are content to support the Committee's approach, via this Amendment, to produce a complete set of Propositions to support the debate.

- c) The propositions have been submitted to His Majesty's Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.
- d) The financial implications to the States of carrying propositions into effect are as follows:
 - (i) Propositions 1, 5, 6 and 7: set out in section 17, see in particular Figures 28, 31 and 32.
 - (ii) Proposition 2: as set out in Figure 1 in the explanatory note below.
 - (iii) Proposition 3: as set out in Figure 2 in the explanatory note below.
 - (iv) Proposition 4: will not exceed those pertaining to the original proposition 2 (proposition 5 of this Amendment).
 - (v) Proposition 8: are not different to those pertaining to the original proposition 4. It is not anticipated that there will be any funding required in the early stages of building collaborative relationships, although there may be opportunities to fund specific projects in the future which can be approached on a case-by-case basis.
 - (vi) Proposition 9: the Committee does not concur with the assessment of the Proposer and Secunder of Amendment 4 that there are no financial implications of carrying the proposal into effect, as the policy development work arising from it has not been factored into the work schedule of Officers, which is dictated by the strategic priorities as described in the Government Work Plan.

As a direct alternative to seeking additional funding to resource the workstream arising from this proposition, which has time restrictions attached to it, the Committee would be required to reprioritise resources that are due to be allocated to the Education Law Review, the Review of Primary Education, and supporting the work of the Education Devolution & Delegation Investigatory & Advisory Committee.
- e) Drafting advice has been sought from the States' Greffier and advice has been sought from the Officers of the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture.

Explanatory note

The Committee is mindful of the strength of feeling both within the community and the Assembly in respect of the subject of this Policy Letter. It is also mindful of the commitment it made to the Colleges to ensure their preferred proposition is put

forward and debated.

By consolidating all of the Amendments lodged in respect of this matter, the Committee's intention is to support the principles of good governance by setting out all the propositions that could arise from the lodged Amendments in a coherent way, to assist the States of Deliberation to engage in a full, holistic and transparent debate on this complex matter.

The rationale behind propositions 1, 5, 6 and 7 (the Committee's original propositions) is fully elaborated on in the Committee's [Policy Letter](#), see in particular section 17.

Please refer to Amendments 1 to 5 for further explanation of the rationale behind propositions 2, 3, 4, 8 and 9 as follows:

- (i) Proposition 2: as described in [Amendment 2](#)
- (ii) Proposition 3: as described in [Amendment 3](#)
- (iii) Proposition 4: as described in [Amendment 1](#)
- (iv) Proposition 8: as described in [Amendment 5](#)
- (v) Proposition 9: as described in [Amendment 4](#)

Rule 4(1)(d) – supplementary information:

Figure 1:

Grant profile: 2026/2027 to 2032/2033						
ACADEMIC YEAR	Brought forward estimated grant	Inflationary increase at 2.5% estimate (as per policy letter)	Estimated grant (including inflation of 2.5%)	Reduction by 4% per annum	Estimated grant reduced by 4%, (including inflation at 2.5%) assuming stable pupil numbers (1,256)	Per pupil funding applicable
2025/26	£2,844,940					£2,265
2026/27	£2,844,940	£71,124	£2,916,064	£116,642	£2,799,422	£2,228
2027/28	£2,799,422	£69,986	£2,869,408	£114,776	£2,754,632	£2,193
2028/29	£2,754,632	£68,866	£2,823,498	£112,940	£2,710,558	£2,158
2029/30	£2,710,558	£67,764	£2,778,322	111,133	£2,667,189	£2,123
2030/31	£2,667,189	£66,680	£2,733,869	109,355	£2,624,514	£2,089
2031/32	£2,624,514	£65,613	£2,690,127	107,605	£2,582,522	£2,055
2032/33	£2,582,522	£64,563	£2,647,085	105,883	£2,541,202	£2,023
For modelling purposes: The grant for 2025/2026 has been calculated based on the estimated starting grant for 2026/27 as per the CfESC's policy letter. Inflation (RPIX) has been assumed at 2.5% per annum from 2026 onwards. At the same time the grant has been reduced by 4% per annum over the seven year term.						

Figure 2:

Academic Year	General grant	Pupil numbers	General grant per pupil	Change in funding per pupil	Change in grant from prior year	Saving
2025/26	£2,844,940	1,256	£2,265			
2026/27	£2,831,350	1,250	£2,265	£0	-£13,580	£13,590
2027/28	£2,795,108	1,234	£2,265	£0	-£36,495	£49,832
2028/29	£2,720,361	1,201	£2,265	£0	-£74,688	£124,579
2029/30	£2,607,107	1,151	£2,265	£0	-£113,730	£237,833
2030/31	£2,536,889	1,120	£2,265	£0	-£70,445	£308,051
2031/32	£2,430,430	1,073	£2,265	£0	-£106,091	£414,510
2032/33	£2,292,261	1,012	£2,265	£0	-£138,343	£552,679
2033/34	£2,237,899	988	£2,265	£0	-£52,621	£607,041
2034/35	£2,203,922	973	£2,265	£0	-£33,949	£641,018
2035/36	£2,201,657	972	£2,265	£0	-£2,546	£643,283
2036/37	£2,235,634	987	£2,265	£0	£33,949	£609,306
2037/38	£2,269,610	1,002	£2,265	£0	£33,100	£575,330
2038/39	£2,296,791	1,014	£2,265	£0	£26,311	£548,149
2039/40	£2,305,851	1,018	£2,265	£0	£9,336	£539,089
2040/41	£2,285,465	1,009	£2,265	£0	-£19,683	£559,475
2041/42	£2,265,080	1,000	£2,265	£0	-£20,386	£579,860
2042/43	£2,244,694	991	£2,265	£0	-£20,386	£600,246
2043/44	£2,226,573	983	£2,265	£0	-£18,121	£618,367
2044/45	£2,210,718	976	£2,265	£0	-£15,856	£634,222

Modelled on the same basis as the modelling in the Policy Letter