

CHILDREN'S OUTCOMES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(3rd Meeting)

30th October 2025

Part A (Non-Exempt)

All members were present, with the exception of Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat of St. Helier North, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs, from whom apologies had been received.

Connétable R. Vibert of St. Peter, Minister for Children and Families, Chair
Deputy R.J. Ward of St. Helier Central, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning
Deputy S.Y. Mézec of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing
Deputy T.J.A. Binet of St. Saviour, Minister for Health and Social Services
(items A5 – 10)

In attendance –

Dr. N. Kemp, Senior Policy Officer, Cabinet Office
A. Goldhawk, Senior Policy Officer, Public Health Commissioning and Transformation, Cabinet Office
K. Posner, Interim Chief Officer, Children, Young People, Education and Skills Department
C. Lucas, Head of Transformation, Commissioning and Partnerships, Children, Young People, Education and Skills Department
E. Walker, Associate Director, Engagement and Participation, Children, Young People, Education and Skills Department
J. Norris, Principal Policy Officer, Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance, Cabinet Office
C. De Gruchy Mosely, Justice and Building a Safer Community Coordinator, Justice and Home Affairs Department
A. Moore, Assistant Private Secretary, Ministerial Office
A. Thompson, Administration and Research Officer, Ministerial Office
L. Plumley, Senior Secretariat Officer, Specialist Secretariat, States Greffe
E. Patterson, Secretariat Officer, Specialist Secretariat, States Greffe

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A only.

Declarations of interest.	A1. There were no declarations of interest in respect of any items under consideration at the present meeting.
Minutes.	A2. The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th April 2025, having previously been circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.
Children, Young People and Families Plan 2024 – 2027 – Monitoring Plan.	A3. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A3 of 16th April 2025, received a PowerPoint presentation in connexion with the Monitoring Plan for the Children, Young People and Families' Plan 2024 – 2027 (the Plan), and heard from Dr. N. Kemp, Senior Policy Officer, Cabinet Office. It was recalled that the Committee had previously endorsed the proposed approach to monitoring the Plan, which consisted of 4 workstreams to support the Committee's ongoing review function. Each workstream was considered in further detail during the meeting, as follows –

- Voice of children and young people;
- Data dashboard;
- Alignment of commissioning activity; and,
- Update from the voluntary sector (Children's Cluster Group).

It was noted that the extant meeting would focus on 'Big Picture Outcome' of the Plan: 'enjoy a good standard of living and housing', which encompassed a good standard of material wellbeing for children and parents; regular access to nutritious food; living in appropriate, stable housing that was affordable, warm and dry; and living in families who could access good jobs.

Children,
Young People
and Families
Plan 2024 –
2027 – Data
dashboard.

A4. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A6 of 10th October 2024, received a PowerPoint presentation in connexion with the data dashboard, which provided insight into the sustainable wellbeing indicators relating to children and young people, and heard from Dr. N. Kemp, Senior Policy Officer, Cabinet Office.

The data dashboard assisted in identifying key themes for the Committee to consider in connexion with the Big Picture Outcomes, and the following key indicators were shared in relation to measuring the impact of interventions to improve housing and living standards for children and young people –

- half (51 per cent) of households with children found it quite or very difficult to cope financially, compared to 31 per cent of households without children (Jersey Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (JOLS) 2024);
- a third (32 per cent) of adults living in a household with children were very satisfied with their housing, compared to 45 per cent of those without children (JOLS 2024);
- one in four (24 per cent) of children were living in households below the relative low-income threshold after housing costs, defined as household income below 60 per cent of median equivalised income (Jersey Household Income Distribution Report 2021-22); and
- 6 per cent of children in school years 6, 8, 10 and 12 reported black mould on their walls or ceiling, with a significant correlation with low self-esteem noted (Jersey Children and Young People's Survey 2021).

Deputy S.Y. Mézec of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing, suggested that it would be helpful for the correlation with housing tenure to be explored, while Connétable R. Vibert of St. Peter, Minister for Children and Families, Chair, highlighted the link between poor housing, health issues (including respiratory conditions) and food bank use. Deputy R.J. Ward of St. Helier Central, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, highlighted the positive impact of the introduction of school meals and commented on the need for a consistent and coordinated approach to communications in this regard.

Dr. Kemp advised that a review was being undertaken, with Statistics Jersey, of the indicators used to assess the impact of measures related to 'Big Picture Outcome 3'. The addition of a routine question in the Children and Young People's Survey regarding the presence of black mould in the home was recommended, along with a question regarding whether children and young people had enough food to eat each day. The Committee endorsed the proposed additional questions and thanked Dr. Kemp for the update.

Children,
Young People
and Families
Plan 2024 –
2027 – Voice
of children and
young people.

A5. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A4 of 16th April 2025, received and noted a report, dated 22nd October 2025, entitled ‘Voice of Children and Young People; Children, Young People and Families’ Plan 2024 – 2027’ (the Plan) and heard from Ms. E. Walker, Associate Director, Engagement and Participation, Children, Young People, Education and Skills (CYPES) Department.

The report set out the participation and engagement activity undertaken with children and young people in connexion with monitoring the plan, in relation to housing policy, cost of living and the redevelopment of Fort Regent.

The School Council Network (SCN) had engaged directly with officers and Deputy S.Y. Mézec of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing, at its June 2025 meeting, demonstrating a growing confidence amongst young people to shape and inform housing policy. SCN members had emphasised the need for more green spaces, community-friendly designs and inclusive housing policies.

The following key youth-focused housing policies were highlighted –

- over 50 households had benefited from an initial allocation of £10 million to the First Step assisted home ownership scheme, which had supported first time homebuyers;
- over 1,000 new homes would be delivered by Andium Homes by 2030, including affordable rental and ownership options;
- the age threshold for social housing applications for single applicants had been lowered from 50 to 25 years of age, to improve access to housing for younger residents; and
- new rental laws, including the Residential Tenancy (Jersey) Amendment Law 202-, had been developed to protect tenants from unfair rent increases and improve housing security.

The SCN’s June meeting had also featured a ‘Cost of Living Education and Empowerment’ workshop facilitated by Mr. C. Walker, Chair, Jersey Consumer Council, with over 100 primary school students and 50 secondary school students exploring the financial impact of daily expenses in Jersey. Students were also educated about the benefits of comparison shopping and given practical advice regarding how to save money on essential items.

SCN members had also been invited to contribute to the States of Jersey Development Company’s (SoJDC) redevelopment plans for Fort Regent, which included the creation of a vibrant hub with facilities such as a cinema, bowling alley and concert hall. The feedback from students had highlighted the importance of fun, inclusive and accessible environments, with 94 per cent of 11 to 16 year-olds expressing support for the redevelopment plans. SoJDC representatives were due to return to the SCN in December 2025, to undertake further engagement activities.

The SCN would focus on ‘Big Picture Outcomes 2 and 4’ of the plan: ‘feeling safe and loved’ and ‘can learn and achieve’, for the 2025-26 academic year. Engagement would also be undertaken with a number of ‘voice groups’, including the Jersey Youth Assembly, Mont à l’Abbé School, the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service and the Children’s Commissioner Youth Advisory Group.

The Committee was informed that the SCN's Annual Report for 2024-2025 was due to be published in November 2025, and it was acknowledged that through meaningful engagement with Government of Jersey departments and external agencies, young people had contributed valuable insights into issues such as housing affordability, cost of living, and access to safe and inclusive spaces. It was recommended that youth engagement should continue to be embedded in decision-making processes, the outcomes of SCN engagement activities should be tracked and shared with schools and participants, and that engagement opportunities should be accessible to all children.

The Committee thanked Ms. Walker for the update.

Children,
Young People
and Families
Plan 2024 –
2027 –
Housing Policy
update.

A6. The Committee received and noted a report, dated 30th October 2025, entitled 'Big Picture Outcome 3: Housing Policy Update', in connexion with housing policy developments and their role in improving outcomes for children and young people, and heard from Mr. J. Norris, Principal Policy Officer, Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance, Cabinet Office.

The Committee recalled that Deputy S.Y. Mézec of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing, officers from the Strategic Housing and Regeneration team and representatives of Andium Homes had met with the School Council Network (SCN) in June 2025, to engage with students on housing policy issues. The sessions had explored students' views on housing, including what the word 'home' meant to them, their concerns about housing in Jersey, and how to improve housing for Islanders. Students had highlighted several important themes, including improving the affordability of owning or renting a home, secure and high-quality housing, inclusive communities with outdoor spaces for play, and preventing homelessness. The feedback would inform the delivery of policy priorities by the Minister for Housing, which included supporting more islanders into home ownership, improving the experience of renters and addressing homelessness.

The Committee was informed that access to home ownership was being expanded through a range of assisted purchase products, including the First Step scheme, Andium Homebuy, the progression of rezoned housing sites and collaborative working with developers of larger schemes to ensure that at least 15 per cent of new homes were offered through assisted purchase products. Since being launched in 2024, the First Step scheme had supported over 50 households, including 56 children, to purchase a home.

The Residential Tenancy (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (the Law) had been adopted by the States Assembly in September 2025 and was due to come into force in 2026. The Law was intended to strengthen protections for tenants and landlords, and the establishment of a Rent Tribunal was proposed. Over 18,000 licences had been issued to landlords following the introduction of the Rented Dwellings Licensing Scheme (the Scheme), with 203 inspections undertaken. Hazards such as damp, mould growth, excess cold and electrical risks had been identified and the enforcement of minimum standards via the Scheme contributed to safer, healthier living environments for families and children living in rented accommodation. A range of measures had been introduced to improve access to social housing through the Affordable Housing Gateway, including widened eligibility and increased income limits. Over 500 new homes were under construction or due to commence construction by Andium Homes, including 3 and 4 bedroom homes for rent and purchase on sites across the Island. A review of the social housing rents policy was also underway following the adoption of P.29/2025 (as amended).

Deputy R.J. Ward of St. Helier Central, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, requested that information be provided regarding the proportion of children and young people housed at Le Grand Douet, a recently completed Andium Homes development in St. Helier. He also noted that households which did not satisfy the eligibility criteria, for example, with regard to length of residency in Jersey, could not access the Affordable Housing Gateway, and demand might therefore be higher than reported. It was acknowledged that affordability remained a key policy concern, with house prices being unaffordable for many of the 3,213 applicants registered on the Assisted Purchase Pathway.

The implementation of the Jersey Homelessness Strategy, supported by the Homelessness Cluster, aimed to prevent and alleviate homelessness through coordinated action, the provision of appropriate accommodation and targeted support. A Housing Advice Service had been established to provide accessible guidance and support to individuals at risk of homelessness. Multi-agency cooperation had also been strengthened to provide holistic and timely access to housing and support, particularly for care leavers. It was noted that 341 people in Jersey had identified as homeless in the second quarter of 2025, with 194 people living in temporary shelter accommodation and 75 'sofa surfing'. Fewer than 50 households with dependant children were in Band one of the Affordable Housing Gateway and were receiving support to access suitable housing, as of 20th October 2025. Early intervention and improved referral pathways were key to the prevention of homelessness arising and the effective allocation of social housing remained central to meeting urgent needs and supporting long-term housing stability.

In response to a question from Deputy T.J.A. Binet of St. Saviour, Minister for Health and Social Services, it was confirmed no historic comparable figures were available for homelessness levels, due to changes in reporting and data collection. 8 people were currently classed as 'roofless', 194 people were living in temporary shelter accommodation and hidden homelessness ('sofa surfing') represented an area of concern.

It was acknowledged that housing policy played a vital role in supporting children and young people, in line with 'Big Picture Outcome 3' of the Children, Young People and Families Plan 2024 – 2027, and that the initiatives outlined above, and the expansion of social housing, had provided children and young people with improved access to secure and safe homes. Improvements in rental protections and homelessness prevention had also assisted in the reduction of housing insecurity and improved stability for children and young people.

The Committee thanked Mr. Norris for the update.

Children,
Young People
and Families'
Plan 2024 -
2027 –
Alignment of
commissioning
activity.

A7. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A7 of 16th April 2025, received and noted a report, dated 22nd October 2025, entitled 'Aligning Children, Young People, Education and Skills (CYPES) Department commissioning activity with the Children, Young People and Families' Plan 2024 – 2027 (the Plan)' and heard from Ms. C. Lucas, Head of Transformation, Commissioning and Partnerships, CYPES Department.

It was recalled that certain public services were commissioned by the CYPES Department from external providers as they could not be provided internally and the Department was moving away from grant funding towards a commissioning model based on evidenced service demand and outcomes. A cross-Government

commissioning framework had been introduced in 2023, to apply best practices and offer a structured, evidence-based approach across all Government provided public services.

The Committee was informed that all contracts and grants which were due to end in 2025 had undergone a comprehensive review to assess delivery against objectives, achievement of key performance indicators and overall value for money. This process had allowed the Department to re-focus commissioning activity, ensuring that all contracts and grants were aligned with current strategic and service priorities. The following key contract updates were highlighted –

- notice had been issued to MIND Jersey to end the current contract due to successful recruitment within Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services and a reduction in the number of children on the therapy waiting list;
- strengthened key performance measures had been introduced to improve accountability and performance monitoring within Family Nursing and Home Care;
- new referrals from the Children’s Social Care Service and Early Help Approach had been paused by Brighter Futures, citing increased demand within universal services. Engagement was ongoing to ascertain and manage the impact on referred families; and
- a contract with ‘Kooth’, an online support provider for young people, would be extended for a period of 6 months whilst a review of online mental health support across all ages was reviewed jointly with Health and Care Jersey colleagues.

The Committee was informed that a number of charities were currently experiencing financial hardship, including Centrepoint, which was projecting a year-end deficit. A financial recovery plan had been implemented which would achieve savings *via* redundancy measures and the closure of the Home Care Service. This would impact several local families, and work was underway to ensure continuity of service to those affected.

The Committee was also apprised of the upcoming ‘Short Breaks’ project to review the current weekly short breaks offer, holiday provision and respite care arrangements, which was scheduled to commence in late 2025. The project enabled children and young people with disabilities to spend time away from their primary carers and the review aimed to improve equity of access by creating a clearly defined offer, clarifying the distinction between short breaks and holiday care, and enhancing access to universal provision for those with additional needs while strengthening specialist provision.

The Committee thanked Ms. Lucas for the update.

Children,
Young People
and Families’
Plan 2024 -
2027 – update
from the
voluntary
sector

A8. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A8 of 16th October 2025, received an oral update from Dr. N. Kemp, Senior Policy Officer, Cabinet Office regarding the Children’s Cluster Group (CCG).

It was recalled that the CCG was a collaboration between various local charities and Government of Jersey Officers, with a collective focus on improving the outcomes for children, young people and families, and which met on a bi-monthly basis.

(Children's
Cluster
Group).

The Committee was informed that whilst the CCG had not convened since the last meeting of the Committee, a working group had been developed by the Best Start Partnership, to consider what a good standard of living and housing consisted of for younger children, with reference to 'Big Picture Outcome 3' of the Children, Young People and Families' Plan 2024 - 2027: 'enjoy a good standard of living and housing'.

The Committee thanked Dr. Kemp for the update.

Any other
business.

A9. The Committee received an oral update from Dr. N. Kemp, Senior Policy Officer, Cabinet Office, in connexion with a Scrutiny Panel review by the Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel (the Panel).

The Panel was conducting a review into online harms for Jersey's children, which sought to ascertain how the Government of Jersey was working across departments to address potential harm to children and young people through online platforms and digital content and to consider how children in Jersey were protected through existing legislation and policy. The Panel had gathered evidence from Ministerial departments as well as the Information Commissioner and the Children's Commissioner. A standalone hearing on the subject of online safety for children in Jersey had also been held on 4th October 2024, to collect information about the Government of Jersey's approach to online safety. The Committee noted that a report would be published by the Panel in due course.

Date of next
meeting.

A10. The Committee noted that the proposed date for the next scheduled meeting was 19th March 2026 (to be confirmed), with a focus on 'Big Picture Outcome 4' of the Children, Young People and Families' Plan 2024 – 2027: 'all children in Jersey are safe and loved'.