

2011 Island Plan: interim review  
Examination in Public

## **Statement: Green Zone – Policy NE7**

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### **Q5. Does the Interim Review Plan, subject to the Minister's response adequately address the need for education provision on the western side of the Island, whilst safeguarding the Green Zone?**

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The redevelopment of Les Quennevais School, one of the Island's four non fee-paying secondary schools which serves the west of the Island, is become increasingly urgent as the building ages, the requirements of the curriculum change and student numbers increase.

A feasibility study has established that the existing school buildings no longer meet UK guidelines for secondary schools and that the refurbishment or rebuild of the school on the current site is not a desirable option.

Preliminary work has been undertaken by the Department for Education, Sport and Culture, together with Jersey Property Holdings, to conduct a review of potential site options. Initially, this focussed on sites solely within public ownership. Out of this initial review a potential option of redeveloping the school on a site centred on the south-east corner of the Les Quennevais Sports Centre facility was identified. This option, whilst contained within the existing built-up area, poses challenges in relation to its impact upon strategically significant sports facilities as well as posing similar challenges to the site of the existing school in terms of securing access through a residential area.

The Minister for Planning and Environment has advised the Department for ESC that consideration should be given to a wide range of site options, including those outwith public ownership, to ensure that a rigorous and comprehensive initial site option appraisal can be evidenced.

In considering a wider range of site options attention has been focussed not only on land outwith public ownership, but also outside the existing Island Plan built-up area boundary.

Whilst this has yet to generate a definitive site for the provision of a new secondary school to serve the west of the Island, an option based on a site located in the Green Zone has been identified. This site, focussed on Fields 80, 84, 84A, 85, 86 and 87 St Brelade located opposite the Airport playing fields south of La Rue Carrée and west of La Route des Quennevais, is to be explored as a potential location for a new Les Quennevais School. This would mean the school remained close to an area where the demand in terms of pupil numbers is highest and would be closer to main transport routes. The next step for ESC is to undertake a detailed feasibility study to confirm whether this site would be suitable for a new secondary school.

Any preferred site option that emerges from this process, whether within the built-up area or the Green Zone, would remain to be formally assessed and considered through the planning application process: owing to the size of the proposed facility, this would also likely require a full environmental impact assessment.

The Minister is, however, minded to amend the Green Zone policy to better enable consideration of elements of strategic infrastructure, such as the development of utility infrastructure and secondary schools, whilst seeking to ensure that the environmental impact of such is properly identified, avoided and/or mitigated as far as possible within the context of the policy provision for this area.