

REQUETE  
DETERMINING THE BEST MODEL  
FOR SECONDARY EDUCATION

THE HUMBLE PETITION of the undersigned Members of the States of Deliberation sheweth that:

- 1) On 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018 the States of Deliberation decided to pursue the 1 school on 2 sites model without being presented with a detailed plan for its implementation.
- 2) The approved policy direction agreed on the 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019 was again done without full details of the planned implementation being presented.

The policy requires an investment of approximately £157m with the central policy being to deliver education in Guernsey in 1 school on 2 sites, using the current Les Beaucamps and St Sampson's High Schools.

It is envisaged that the schools will increase in size from the current approximate level of 600-700 students to approximately 1,400 students. The 2 sites will deliver education for children in the States school system from ages 11- 18 years old.

- 3) Since the approval by a majority of States Members of the proposed model in September 2019, the Policy & Resources Committee, under delegated Authority, has granted permission, in December 2019, for the Committee *for* Education Sport & Culture to go out to tender for the construction of the 2 new schools. Concurrently, the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture submitted their building plans for approval to the Development and Planning Authority.
- 4) The submission of building plans subsequent to the policy approval on 6<sup>th</sup> September and the publishing of relevant details such as Traffic Impact Assessments, along with an invitation to tender have drawn a considerable amount of attention from stakeholders, including Douzaines, members of the public, teachers, teaching Unions and parents, who have expressed serious concerns.

The government process for capital bids, the results of teaching Union surveys, community queries, and formal questions in the States of Deliberations have highlighted serious inadequacies of detail around the plans for inter alia, managing traffic, transition modelling for teachers and students, space allocation, sports facilities, overcrowding, parking, impact of larger school in the community, transport and disaster recovery.

- 5) Numerous incremental changes to the plans made in isolation to reactively address the different concerns of numerous stakeholders risk the majority-approved plan from September 2019 becoming a very different one in implementation from what was originally proposed, with the added probability of significant cost overruns.
- 6) What is required is proper consideration of the delivery of education in an informed and evidenced manner with comprehensive details of the structure and implementation of viable non-selective models presented for comparison and consideration.

As there is an Election in June 2020, the newly elected States of Deliberation and Committee for Education, Sport and Culture will be largely responsible for implementing and financing these plans. Your Petitioners believe that it is essential that they be given the opportunity to subject the 1 school on 2 sites to further rigorous review and challenge and be allowed to assess whether the final proposals balance costs and benefits and therefore use of public resources in a way that creates and maximises public value and the greatest benefits for students.

In the circumstances of increased stakeholder challenge, your Petitioners believe that it is essential the newly convened Committee and States of Deliberation be allowed to make this determination prior to proceeding further with the 1 school on 2 sites model. Thus, avoiding the potential for significant additional costs if the new States of Deliberation were to choose another model for implementing non-selective education.

- 7) The Petitioners request that such consideration be delivered in a report which must include a comprehensive comparison of the structure and implementation of the 1 school on 2 sites against other viable non-selective models of educational delivery in Guernsey. For the purposes of transparency and accountability it is essential for States Members to be presented with research in totality for them to be able to make an informed decision regarding what will lead to the best outcomes for the Island.
- 8) Your Petitioners recommend that additional time is built into the transitional model to accommodate a one year delay. This is an acceptable delay to ensure that the correct decision is made considering the 50 year design life of the proposed buildings.

Your Petitioners will request estimates of the associated costs for a one year delay from the Committee for Education, Sport and Culture in accordance with Rule 4(3).

- 9) Your Petitioners seek a moratorium on the awarding of all contracts or procurement relating to the implementation of the current policy until after the then newly constituted Committee for Education, Sport and Culture has presented a properly detailed Policy Letter to the then newly constituted States for their consideration and approval with associated Propositions. Both to enable proper consideration of the finalised detailed proposals, but also to enable the new States of Deliberation, who will oversee its implementation and financing, to decide if they support them.

THESE PREMISES CONSIDERED YOUR PETITIONERS humbly pray that the States should be pleased to resolve:

1. To direct the Committee *for* Education, Sport & Culture not to enter into any contractual obligations on behalf of the States or continue with any associated procurement processes for implementation of any elements of the 1 school on 2 sites plan as approved by the States on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019;
2. To direct the Committee for Education, Sport & Culture to prepare a Policy Letter, which contains a report that must include a comprehensive comparison of the structure and implementation of the 1 school on 2 sites plan with other previously presented viable models of non-selective educational delivery in Guernsey, together with suitable Propositions, for consideration and approval by the newly constituted Committee for Education, Sport & Culture and, subject to the approval of the newly constituted Committee, submission to the States for their approval before the end of 2020.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS WILL EVER PRAY

GUERNSEY

Andrea Dudley-Owen

Rob Prow

Carl Meerveld

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The day January 2020