

# MINISTERIAL RESPONSE

JERSEY YOUTH PARLIAMENT'S FINAL REPORT  
(MARCH 2024)

Theme	Recommendation	Responding Minister(s)	Response
Parks	Every parish should have a park	MENV	<p>The Minister for the Environment and the Minister for Children and Families are working on developing a Play Strategy, which will ensure all Island children and young people have access to open spaces, including parks. This may include engagement with the Constables to consider the availability, access, and quality of open spaces throughout their Parishes.</p> <p>The next review of the Island Plan will address any shortages in open spaces that are identified, including parks.</p>
Parks	Every child and young person should be able to walk to a park	MENV	<p>The Island already has a good variety of open spaces, including formal spaces, like parks, squares, and outdoor sports facilities; an extensive coastline with cliffs and beaches; and natural green spaces, such as woodlands, coastal heaths, and dunes.</p> <p>The Island Plan sets the standards for the amount and accessibility of different types of open space that should be available throughout the island, and particularly in town.</p>
Parks	Improve current parks	MINF	<p>As part of last year's Budget, the Parks and Gardens team received additional funding to improve the Island's parks and the Railway Walk.</p> <p>There is a significant list of projects which will be delivered over the next four years which includes replacing play equipment, improvements to the existing gardens, and general enhancement to the parks.</p>

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Parks	Ensure that all parks are inclusive and accessible	MINF	<p>The Minister for Infrastructure is committed to ensuring that every park is a place where everyone feels welcome and can have fun. They are working towards ensuring that all our parks can be used and enjoyed by everyone, regardless of their abilities.</p> <p>This involves creating playgrounds with equipment that children with disabilities can use, ensuring that paths and trails are accessible for all, and providing spaces where families can gather and play together.</p>
Activities	Heavily subsidised or free entry into Government run sports facilities for under 18's	MINF	<p>The Active scheme already offers some free use and heavily discounted activities to young people in their sports facilities.</p> <p>Active manages the Langford and Oakfield facilities that are school sites during term time. The schools access these facilities free of charge during term time, from 8.30am to 5pm, to deliver their curriculum programmes and after school facilities.</p> <p>The Government is in the process of developing more options for young people, such as at the Langford Centre, outside of school times, for those aged 5+.</p> <p>All other Active sites offer free use to schools during curriculum time and 50% discount for after school activities. In addition, the Government offers clubs that are providing regular activities to young people discounts of up to 50% on hall hire, pool hire, pitch hire, and studio hire to deliver their activities.</p>

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Activities	More free things for children and young people to do	MCF	<p>The Jersey Youth Service offers a broad and diverse range of activities in every parish. And free access is available if any young person and their family are experiencing hardship.</p> <p>Jersey Library provides extensive and well used study space and resources for students, as well as study support activities. The Library also hosts reading groups, writing workshops, and other creative events which young people are welcome to take part in.</p> <p>Jersey Library is grateful for the support offered every year by student volunteers in helping to run the Summer Reading Challenge for primary and preschool children and offers work placement opportunities throughout the year for young people.</p>
Community Schools	Allow the community to share school spaces	MINF	<p>Many of the Island's community sports centres are actively used after school time. These are used by the community sports clubs and associations, and members of the public who wish to hire them privately.</p> <p>The same can be said of a number of schools which, after the school day has finished, give over their facilities, and hire these out to community users.</p> <p>Discussions are currently taking place with the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning to see if more can be done to provide more community access to some of the facilities that are closed at the end of the school day.</p>
Community Schools	Open schools up after hours for people to use the facilities	MINF	[Please see answer immediately above.]

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Housing Standards	Everyone in the island should have a suitable home	MH	<p>The Minister for Housing agrees that everyone in Jersey should have access to an affordable, good-quality, and secure home.</p> <p>The Minister is introducing a wide range of measures to support Islanders, including improving protections for those who rent their homes; widening access to social housing; and helping Islanders to buy their own home through the First Step scheme. Andium Homes also plan to deliver 3,000 new homes by 2030.</p> <p>The Minister has also committed to delivering the priorities of the Jersey Homelessness Strategy, which sets out a vision to end homelessness in Jersey. This includes improving accommodation and support for those who are homeless or at risk of experiencing homelessness.</p>

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Housing Standards	Housing should be more affordable for those that cannot afford a house	MH	<p>The Minister for Housing has made changes to the criteria for social housing so that more Islanders can apply and benefit from reduced rent, which is currently capped at up to 80% of a private rental value.</p> <p>The Minister has: increased the income limit for people applying for a one-bedroom home; reduced the age of eligibility from 35 to 30; and allowed separated parents to have an extra bedroom for when their children stay.</p> <p>In addition to this, the Minister will make further changes to the criteria so that Islanders over the age of 25 can apply. Additionally, the Minister's First Step scheme is already helping 23 applicants to purchase their first home with equity loans totalling £3.4m, with a total of £10m of loans to be issued by the end of the year.</p>

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Housing Standards	Stop building one-bedroom flats, we want houses to live in	MH & MENV	<p><b>MH</b> Of all the types of property available as social housing, one-bedroom apartments are in the highest demand from Islanders.</p> <p>However, we agree there is need for all types and sizes of homes. Andium's building programme, plus re-zoned housing sites, will mean more houses are built, as well as reducing waiting times to access social rented housing in the Island.</p> <p><b>MENV</b> Changes in our population, including increasing numbers of older Islanders, mean that more smaller homes are now required.</p> <p>The Island Plan seeks to ensure that the homes we provide meet the Island's housing needs, and this involves a mix of houses and flats.</p> <p>The Island is a small place and there is a need to ensure that when land is developed, it is used efficiently. This means that more compact, denser forms of residential development are encouraged, whilst still ensuring that there is access to good quality spaces inside and outside.</p>

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Housing Standards	Remove the standard of building a one-bedroom flat for one person	MH & MENV	<p><b>MH</b> The Minister for Housing reviews the planning applications for certain new housing developments.</p> <p>When reviewing recent plans that include single-occupancy apartments, the Minister has highlighted that he wants developers to build larger apartments and, where this is unavoidable, he has requested that developers market these as only being suitable for one person.</p> <p><b>MENV</b> The Minister for the Environment is exploring the potential removal of this standard.</p> <p>Its removal would likely make smaller homes more expensive.</p>
Accessibility	Keep promoting the proper use of the Sunflower Lanyards	Deputy Carina Alves, Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister; Diversity and Inclusion	<p>The Disability &amp; Inclusion (D&amp;I) Team continues to raise awareness of hidden disabilities, mainly through events such as 'Embrace Our Difference and Closer to Home.'</p> <p>Seventy Government staff members have had Hidden Disability Sunflower training. D&amp;I has distributed Sunflower lanyards to CLS and Broad Street Reception, St Helier Parish Hall, St Brelade Parish Hall, and Jersey Library. Several businesses located on King Street are displaying the Hidden Disability Sunflower on their premises.</p>



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Accessibility	More shops and public spaces to have 'accessible hours'	Deputy Carina Alves, Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister; Diversity and Inclusion	<p>The Retail and Visitor Economy team is supportive of encouraging more businesses to adopt 'accessible hours.'</p> <p>This is helpful to both the businesses and customers, as it provides a fairer, accessibility-friendly shopping environment, and attracts customers who would otherwise shop online or avoid the physical retail environment.</p> <p>There are already great examples of best practice, with larger supermarkets, like Waitrose leading the way with low-light and quieter hours.</p>

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Accessibility	Have 'accessible hours' on buses	MINF	<p>Unfortunately, due to the nature of public transport, it would not be feasible to have dedicated 'accessible hours' on bus services. However, Liberty Bus supports the wider local community in as many diverse ways as it can.</p> <p>Beyond basic accessibility of the buses used, Liberty Bus works with Government to implement initiatives like AvanchiAccess and AvanchiAccess+, and has introduced its Disability Outreach Project, a 1-2-1 training programme, Wheelchair Passports, and the Accessibility Card.</p> <p>The Disability Outreach Project ensures bus company staff receive disability awareness training in collaboration with organisations like Jersey Alzheimer's and Autism Jersey. The 1-2-1 programme offers individual support, focusing on (but not limited to) new wheelchair users and individuals with sensory needs, and promoting independence. The Accessibility Card aids those with non-visible disabilities, enhancing communication with drivers. Collaboration with organisations like EYECAN and the Jersey Stroke Association facilitates card distribution.</p>

<p>Accessibility</p>	<p>Ensure all Government buildings are accessible</p>	<p>MINF</p>	<p>Jersey Property Holdings, in partnership with CYPES, have received the final accessibility audit reports from Liberate for Government buildings, and have identified 10 priority schools with accessibility issues to address in 2024.</p> <p>The goal is to achieve an Access Kitemark Certification for the schools, demonstrating commitment to inclusivity and accessibility for everyone.</p> <p>These adjustments may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• External footpaths: Addressing uneven surfaces, improving signage, and ensuring clear access for mobility aids.</li> <li>• Car Parks: Creating designated accessible parking bays and improving clear access walkways.</li> <li>• Entrances and Exits: Ensuring step-free access, automatic door openers, and adequate lighting.</li> <li>• Front-of-house areas: Widening doorways, Visual and Auditory Accessibility</li> </ul> <p><b>Schools for 2024:</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Property Holdings</td> <td>Les Quennevais School</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Property Holdings</td> <td>Le Rocquier School</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CYPES</td> <td>Haute Vallee School</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CYPES</td> <td>Jersey College for Girls</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CYPES</td> <td>Bel Royal School</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CYPES</td> <td>Grands Vaux School</td> </tr> </table>	Property Holdings	Les Quennevais School	Property Holdings	Le Rocquier School	CYPES	Haute Vallee School	CYPES	Jersey College for Girls	CYPES	Bel Royal School	CYPES	Grands Vaux School
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LGBTQ+ Rights	Help promote the parents' guide to ensure young people are getting the best support	Deputy Carina Alves, Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister; Diversity and Inclusion	<p>We are committed to ensuring that young LGBTQ+ people receive the best possible support.</p> <p>We would like to engage with the Youth Parliament about the text of the guide to ensure that it reflects the best approach to helping all parents support their children.</p>								
LGBTQ+ Rights	More single stalled toilets in the island, in particular in schools	Deputy Carina Alves, Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister; Diversity and Inclusion & MELL	<p>In principle, we recognise that single stall toilets are a more inclusive facility.</p> <p>In introducing facilities like this, we will need to ensure that the interests of all users are considered.</p>								
Opinions of Teenagers	Promote positive work of teenagers	All	The Council of Ministers are very supportive of promoting the positive work of Island teenagers and, in particular, the excellent ongoing work of the Youth Parliament, supported by the States Greffe.								
Opinions of Teenagers	Open up spaces for teenagers	MCF	The Jersey Youth Service has a comprehensive Youth Project offer in every parish for young people that provide safe spaces to access.								

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Listen	Young people included in planning decisions	MENV	<p>Young people have been engaged in the plan-making process which led to the production of the latest Island Plan.</p> <p>The planning application process is open and inclusive, and anyone who wants to can engage with it. It is easy to view plans and make comments online (see <a href="#">here</a>).</p>
Listen	Implement all the VAWG recommendations	MJHA	<p>The Council of Ministers have committed, in our plans for the next two years (called our Common Strategic Policy), to implementing the recommendations of the VAWG Taskforce's <a href="#">Report</a>.</p> <p>The Minister for Justice and Home Affairs has issued a <a href="#">response</a> to the Taskforce report.</p>
Listen	Implement our recommendations along with what other people in different reports have been saying	All	<p>We agree that it is vitally important to listen to young people and respond to their questions.</p>
Listen	Give us feedback on this report	All	<p>Furthermore, we value well researched reports like this one, that ensure that young people are heard by their representatives. Please see our responses to your recommendations above.</p>