

## **FACT SHEET No 1 EMBARGOED FOR PUBLICATION UNTIL 00.01AM WED 6th MAY**

### **THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S MAINTENANCE BUDGET**

***"The Education Department has always underspent its maintenance budget" Guernsey Press report 23-4-15***

- The Department's routine capital budget supports 23 sites, over 60 individual buildings and approximately 110,000m<sup>2</sup> of internal floor area.
- This includes all swimming pools, playing fields, sporting equipment such as goalposts, fire and security systems, boilers, lifts and hoists, electrical systems, water hygiene (eg legionella), asbestos management, energy conservation etc.
- We maintain buildings in three islands.
- We are responsible for a land area of 138.5 acres.
- The education estate has an insurance re-build value c£500m.
- We spend approximately £2m per annum on general maintenance from our **revenue budget** – any underspends from this budget are NOT carried forward and go back to Treasury and Resources.
- We have an allocation of up to £1m per year (£950,000 in 2015) for **routine capital** expenditure on our schools (including College of FE and Priaulx Library).
- The routine capital budget is ring-fenced for building and building services maintenance and the purchase of vehicles and equipment with individual items typically costing £20k or more. The release of funding is subject to T&R approval who scrutinise the procurement/tender process.
- Any unallocated/unspent balance from the routine capital budget is automatically carried forward and can therefore be spent during the following years(s) along with the new allocation.
- In 2014 we carried over £550,000 from our routine capital budget into 2015 BUT **£450,000 was already allocated to other prioritised projects which had not been able to be completed in 2014 but will be completed in 2015.** £400k was set aside for a specific project which T&R were advised of in writing.
- We do not allocate a small proportion of our routine capital to specific projects so we are able to retain a sufficient contingency to cover 'emergency' projects or other unplanned expenditure (e.g. the recent ceiling plaster collapse at the CFE Delancey Campus).

***"Education's annual routine capital allocation for its education estate was repeatedly underspent between 2010-2014 – with underspends peaking at £895,000 in 2012 and collectively amounted to £2.8M". Guernsey Press report 23-4-15***

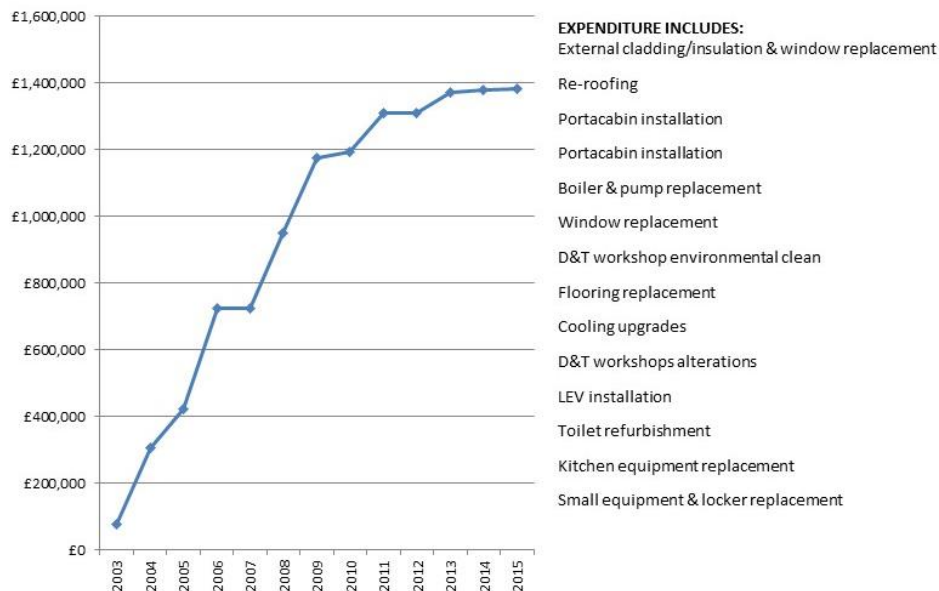
- **This is not correct.** These sums are not cumulative. We carry over unspent balances each year so the figures quoted are the amounts carried over and then added to our capital budget and allocated to projects in the following year. **The real figure is that we are carrying a total underspend (or amount unallocated to a specific project) of £100,000 from our routine capital budget between 2010 and now,** nothing like £2.8m.
- Between 2010 and 2014 we have spent more than £7.3m from our capital allocation on the education estate.
- Capital works planned for 2015 total £1.48m

***"The Education Department has wilfully ignored the maintenance requirements of La Mare de Carteret Schools and allowed them to crumble." Guernsey Press report 23-4-15***

- The buildings were opened in the early 1970s with a design life of 25 years. They are now more than 40 years old.

- We have spent more than £1.3m from our capital maintenance budget over the last 12 years maintaining La Mare de Carteret High School, in the knowledge that it would be rebuilt as part of the Education Development Plan 1. All previous States approvals confirmed that La Mare would be the last of the 3 High Schools to be redeveloped but we did not predict the recent additional delays to the project.

#### LMDC High School Cumulative Annual Routine Capital Maintenance 2003-15 (historical prices)



- **Every year we spend tens of thousands** on the La Mare de Carteret schools from our revenue maintenance budget. This includes addressing the vermin problem, repairing holes in floors/ceilings and other general maintenance works to try to ensure the health and safety of our children and staff.

***‘We are more than happy to work with education to ensure they do have appropriate routine capital to enable it to properly maintain the school’ T&R Minister Guernsey Press Report 23-4-15***

The Education Department had to bring an amendment to the 2015 budget debate to seek to prevent the Treasury and Resources Department reducing the Department’s capital allocation to £250,000 in 2015. T&R tried to transfer the sum of £525,000 ring-fenced by States resolution for the future maintenance of Les Beaucamps, into Education’s routine capital allocation (£175k allocated per year). The successful amendment retained this ring-fenced fund and also increased Education’s capital allocation to the current allocation of £950,000. It should be remembered that this is the capital allocation for the whole education estate. This year we have allocated all of this plus some of the unspent balance from 2014 to capital projects including major roofing works at the Grammar School, phase 2 of the heating replacement at that school, major roofing works at Vale Primary, the purchase of a replacement minibus for our special needs transport service, the rebuilding/conservation of the Priaulx Library boundary wall plus some external decoration of the building, enlarging a classroom at Castel Primary School and replacing end of life workshop equipment at the CFE. We had previously made a submission through the Capital Prioritisation Process for major refurbishment works to the Grammar School but were turned down by T&R and so have had to phase some of the works over a number of years and fund them from the Department’s capital maintenance budget. This means that a significant proportion of our capital budget must be spent on the Grammar School every year (more than £450k in 2015).

*The Education Department is committed to **Equality, Excellence, Enjoyment and Efficiency** and seeks to provide stability and continuity for its staff, students and parents at this time*