



Annual Report 2017

Address PO Box 681, St Helier, Jersey, JE4 0NL

Current Trustees

Helen Ruelle	Chair
Nick Bester	Vice-Chair
Martin Richardson FCA	Treasurer
Christopher Journeaux	Secretary
Deputy Louise Doublet	States Member
Matthew Christensen	Independent Trustee
Steve Ryan	Independent Trustee
Phillipa Galan-Caballero	Independent Trustee

Trustees during 2017

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Nick Bester	Vice-Chair
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Steve Ryan	Independent Trustee
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Executive Director: Toni Roberts

Objectives:

The Trust has the following objectives, which are set out in its Constitution.

- To encourage mutual respect among all people in the Island.
- To promote equality of treatment and opportunity.
- To encourage and facilitate partnerships which enhance social harmony.
- To identify areas where discrimination arises, while promoting and encouraging existing and future initiatives to tackle it.
- To promote education in the community about the aim of the Trust.
- To promote recognition and acceptance of cultural diversity.
- To take measures to counter discriminatory behaviour, attitudes and policies.

The Trustees review the aims, objectives and activities of the Trust each year. The review assesses what the Trust has achieved and the outcome of its work for the previous 12 months. The review appraises the success of each key activity and the benefits they have brought. The Trustees also review the strategy of the Trust and how it is aligned with the objectives of the Trust.

The Trust enters into a partnership agreement with the Community and Constitutional Affairs Department as it provides the Trust with funding. The aim of the Community and Constitutional Affairs Department is:

‘To improve the quality of life of everyone living in Jersey by helping create a safe, just and equitable society’

The Trust therefore plans its activities in order to satisfy all of these aims. The Trust believes that all of its activities below satisfy both its own aims and those of the Community and Constitutional Affairs Department.

A. Activities in 2017

Childcare Report

JCRT engaged Greenlight to undertake research into the Cost of Childcare in Jersey. The basis of the research was that the well-being and development of children is imperative for Jersey in achieving continued economic resilience and more importantly addressing the issues of inequality.

Inequality begins at birth for many children born into vulnerable families. High-quality childcare and pre-school lay the foundation for a life of learning and future financial security. Inequalities can determine which children get these basic necessities.

The Report recommended a **strategy** that included the appointment of a Children's Commissioner and the importance of ensuring that Children's initiatives are centralised and cohesively managed. In addition, the report recognised the importance of vulnerable families having access to good quality pre-school childcare so that all children reach their full potential and can achieve social mobility.

The report recommended the development of a **communication** strategy to ensure regular and co-ordinated dialogue is developed between service providers with the objective of developing a cohesive "family centred plan". A single source of accessible information is important with particular consideration for parents who do not have English as a first language.

The **social implications** of not providing good childcare provision can be extensive. It was recommended that further research be undertaken on the support required by vulnerable families in respect of the cost of housing, employers' working practices and non-normal working hours which require parents to access informal childcare.

It was recognised in the Report that further support was required for suppliers of **commercial** childcare particularly as it relates to wrap-around care which is needed by a large number of parents.

The Report recommended further research be undertaken on the "informal" childcare market, space availability versus number of pre-school children and childcare for children with special educational or respite needs. Further research to be conducted into the support that is provided to EAL students (English as another language) and whether this is influenced by the accessibility of childcare for early years.

The Report was published in July 2017 and copies sent to the Chief Minister's Department and the Minister for Community and Constitutional Affairs.

The Trust will continue to monitor the implementation of the recommendations made in the report and arrange a follow-up meeting with the Minister for Community and Constitutional Affairs.

Women in Politics:

A meeting was held with Professor Sarah Childs, Professor of Politics and Gender at the University of Bristol who addressed the States of Jersey on gender issues.

Professor Childs stressed the importance of continuing to support women candidates in the forthcoming elections in May 2018 and marking the centenary of "Votes for Women" in Jersey in 2019.

A committee has been established chaired by JCRT and the Soroptimists and with Deputy Louise Doublet representing the States' Assembly Diversity Forum. The committee includes a member of the Polish community.

The committee will support women standing for election in May 2018 and women who wish to become involved in a support capacity or have views which they wish to develop.

The Trustees agreed to finance a campaign to support women candidates in the May 2018 elections and to engage more women in the political process. A launch event was held in November 2017 at which the keynote speaker was Sophie Walker, Leader of the Women's Equality Party in the UK. The event was well attended and

following the event a number of women indicated their interest in standing for election or becoming involved as a supporter.

A number of events have been organized for candidates, supporters and women interested in learning more about the States' Assembly and the electoral process. The events have included "Drop-In" Sessions to align supporters with candidates and to provide a forum for topical election issues to be discussed and for women across the economic spectrum to express their views.

The Trust also has an objective of engaging with youth and the wider community with particular emphasis on minorities who may feel disenfranchised.

New Projects:

Following on from the Cost of Childcare Report consideration is being given to conducting a project to "Identify the Barriers to Social Integration and Social Mobility in Jersey" and a meeting request will be issued to the Minister for Community and Constitutional Affairs to discuss the project.

Rebranding:

The Trust has appointed a provider to work with the Trustees to develop a social media programme and to update the Trust's website so that the Trust can increase its visibility and its role in promoting diversity, equality and inclusion.

B. Financial review

In 2016 the Trust received General Funding of £27,500 from the States of Jersey

The continuing level of the grant from the States will be necessary to ensure that the Trust can cover its fixed costs and the funding of ongoing projects.

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C. Governance Arrangements

Governance and transparency of decision-making is extremely important within the Trust. Minutes are taken at all meetings of the Trustees.

An annual external independent review of the financial affairs of the Trust is conducted by Rosscot and the financial statements submitted to the Community and Constitutional Affairs Department.