

**REPLY BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE
ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE
TO QUESTIONS ASKED PURSUANT TO RULE 14 OF THE
RULES OF PROCEDURE BY DEPUTY LESTER QUERPEL**

In 2015, a review of the implementation of the Children Law 2008, was undertaken here in the Bailiwick by Professor Kathleen Marshall, on behalf of the Scrutiny committee. In her report, which was published in November 2015, Professor Marshall made 21 recommendations that she felt could be pursued by the States. With that very much in mind, I ask that you please provide me with answers to the Rule 14 questions laid out below.

Question 1

- (a) What has your department done so far to pursue Professor Marshall's recommendations?
- (b) What is your department currently doing to pursue those recommendations?
- (c) What will your department be doing in the future to pursue those recommendations?

Answer

Professor Marshall's report provided clear and welcome advice to the States, and in particular to the new Committees for Home Affairs and Health & Social Care. In the opinion of the Committee for the Environment & Infrastructure, the 21 recommendations made by Professor Marshall do not have a direct relevance to its mandate.

However, that is not to say that there are not other mechanisms in the Services that fall within the Committee's remit that serve to protect the vulnerable.

As an example in that regard, all drivers of public service vehicles (which in relation to this topic includes drivers of dedicated school bus services) are required to apply for an enhanced level Disclosure and Barring Service check (previously CRB check) when they apply for a Public Service Vehicle Permit. These are then reviewed at regular intervals.

Question 2

Will the President of your department (or another political representative of your department in the President's absence) be making regular statements during future States debates, that update the States Assembly on the progress your department has made, in pursuit of the recommendations?

Answer

Pursuant to the answer to Question 1, Members do not feel that it is appropriate for the Committee for the Environment & Infrastructure to make statements in this regard. However, the Committee stands ready to support or provide input to any statement made by the lead Committee(s), if and when required.

Question 3

If the answer to question 2 is 'yes', then please can you tell me when the first statement will be made and also the dates for subsequent statements in future years, throughout the term of the current Assembly?

Answer

N/A

Question 4

If the answer to question 2 is 'no', then please can you tell me how you will be keeping the Assembly informed regarding your departments attempts to pursue the recommendations?

Answer

The Committee stands ready to support or provide input to any statement made by the lead Committee(s), if and when required.

Question 5

Will your department also be providing the media with similar statements and updates, so they may in turn, broadcast and publish them for the benefit of the general public?

Answer

The Committee does not believe it would be appropriate for it to provide such statements or updates. However, as mentioned above it stands ready to provide relevant input if and when required.

Yours sincerely

Deputy Barry Brehaut
President

Date of Receipt of the Question: 16th December 2016

Date of Reply: 29th December 2016