



Access to Public Information Request

From: John Fernandez, BBC Guernsey

Date of receipt: 2 May 2019

Date of response: 7 May 2019

Subject: St John Merger

Question

I'd like to request some information regarding HSC and St John Ambulance under the code for Access To Information, namely:

- When was HSC initially made aware that the Senior management at St John was going to change?
- When was HSC made aware of the St John merger?
- How much consultation with HSC was done by St John before these changes?
- An investigation was undertaken by the UK priory of St John, what was HSC's involvement in this investigation?
- Regarding the investigation by the priory of England St John, referred to by the new Chair of St John, have the conclusions of this investigation been published to HSC?
- What action is HSC taking following this review by the priory of St John?
- How much money per year is paid by HSC to St John Ambulance?

Response

Q) When was HSC initially made aware that the Senior management at St John was going to change?

- HSC was informed confidentially in writing on 12th April 2019. As the letter was provided in the strictest confidence it is a matter for the Commandery to release, or otherwise, the details contained in that confidential letter.

Q) When was HSC made aware of the St John merger?

- 12th April 2019

Q) How much consultation with HSC was done by St John before these changes?

- HSC was not consulted regarding the changes, other than to support the appointment of two Emergency Department consultants as Medical Adviser and Medical Director to enable the board to engage authoritatively on clinical matters.

Q) An investigation was undertaken by the UK priory of St John, what was HSC's involvement in this investigation?

- HSC had no involvement in the review undertaken by the UK Priory of St John, nor would it expect to have any involvement in what it understands was essentially an internal matter.

Q) Regarding the investigation by the priory of England St John, referred to by the new Chair of St John, have the conclusions of this investigation been published to HSC?

- The review has not been provided to HSC but understands that any pertinent findings were taken into account when considering the proposed changes and reasons for those changes contained in St John's letter to HSC dated 12th April 2019.

Q) What action is HSC taking following this review by the priory of St John?

- HSC's primary concern is the on-going provision of a safe and reliable service through the fulfilment of the terms of its contract with St John. Since we were notified of the changes we have been in regular dialogue with The Commandery.
- The President and Chief Secretary met with the new Chairman, Knight Commander and Chief Officer of SJARS following the changes and were further assured about the ability of the service to meet the terms of the contract.
- To date, nothing has arisen that would give us cause for concern but HSC will continue to monitor the situation closely during this period of transition to ensure that the States of Guernsey's interests, and those of the public served are maintained at the highest levels.

Q) How much money per year is paid by HSC to St John Ambulance?

- The current contract came into effect on 1 January 2019 and the amount payable for 2019 is £2,417,567.

Ends