

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOME AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
BY DEPUTY J-A. BRIDGE OF ST. HELIER**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 1st MARCH 2005

Question 1

In an answer to a written question tabled on 6th July 2004, the President explained that out of 147 recommendations by H.M. Chief Inspector of Prisons, 122 had been addressed although 'action on some' was 'on-going'.

Would the President –

- (a) specify the recommendations where action was "on-going" in July, update members on progress since that time and outline a timetable for completion? and,
- (b) specify the 25 recommendations where action had not occurred in July, update members on any progress on these recommendations and, if appropriate, give reasons for any lack of progress?

Answer

As I announced in the answer in July 2004, the Home Affairs Committee has asked the new Prison Governor to provide an update on the recommendations made by H.M. Chief Inspector of Prisons.

He has reported that action on 70 of the recommendations is complete and a further 15 will be covered following completion of phase 2 of the prison redevelopment project. Of the remaining 62 recommendations upon which action is incomplete, 11 require additional capital funds and 30 require additional resource funding. These recommendations are ongoing through the appropriate bidding processes for capital and revenue funding. Some work has already taken place to address another 11. Thus, only 10 of the recommendations that could be addressed without significant capital or resource funding remain completely unaddressed. These relate to changes of policy or changes to internal systems.

These outstanding issues will be addressed during 2005 following the implementation of key parts of the staffing review that the Home Affairs Committee is due to receive shortly from the Prison Governor.

It should also be noted that H.M. Chief Inspector of Prisons is due to conduct another full inspection of the prison at the end of June 2005.

Question 2

When questioned on the delay in implementation of the Young Offenders' Institution Rules and Prison Rules, the President stated that they had been 'delayed pending the receipt of advice from H.M. Attorney General on the question of whether to appoint an Adjudicator to replace the Prison Board of Visitors to adjudicate on matters concerning the discipline of prisoners, in particular where the loss of remission is concerned. Once this issue has been resolved, the Rules can be brought into effect.'

Would the President inform members whether this issue has been resolved, and, if so, when the Committee intends to bring the rules into effect; if not, would the President explain the reasons why?

Answer

The Home Affairs Committee has yet to receive the advice requested of the Attorney General. There has, therefore, been a further delay in the bringing into effect of these Rules.