

## **2.9 Deputy G.C.L. Baudains of St. Clement of the Minister for Education Sport and Culture regarding the consultation on the possibility of Jersey having a ‘National Gallery’:**

Would the Minister advise whether the consultation on the possibility of Jersey having a National Gallery is being co-ordinated by the Steering Group and not the Education, Sport and Culture Department? And if so, why?

### **Senator M.E. Vibert (The Minister for Education Sport and Culture):**

A report has been submitted to me on the creation of a National Gallery for Jersey by a Steering Group established by the Jersey Heritage Trust and it is this report that is currently out for consultation. I have made it clear and the Steering Group acknowledges this in its own report that it is most important, that it is an opportunity for the public to respond to the contents of the report. I as Minister have therefore undertaken this consultation exercise. The report and the supporting document are published on the States website and hard copies available in the normal way from the Public Library, the States Bookshop and from the contact centre at Cyril Le Marquand House. Respondents are invited to make known their views to one of the Assistant Directors of Education Sport and Culture at my department. The consultation is therefore being conducted by my E.S.C. (Education Sport and Culture) Department on my behalf.

### **2.9.1 Deputy G.C.L. Baudains:**

I am grateful to the Minister for his answer, Sir, but there does appear to be some confusion as to who is co-ordinating the consultation response. Does the Minister agree that such collation of input not only needs to be independent from those promoting the scheme, but also has to be seen to be independent as well? Does the Minister agree with that?

### **Senator M.E. Vibert:**

Yes, the Minister does and he thinks it is absolutely clear in the consultation paper I put out, in the press release I made and in what I have just said. In the comments in the consultation paper, that is available to people, it specifically says that I am undertaking it and says: “Send comments to the Assistant Director” not the Steering Group. In the news release I did, which was extensively reported, it says the E.S.C. Minister - myself - is seeking views on the proposal. So, very clear that I am seeking views on that proposal.