

2.4 Deputy P.V.F. Le Claire of St. Helier of the Minister for Transport and Technical Services regarding the progress made in preparing legislation introducing rear seat belt laws for passengers and children:

What progress, if any, has been made in preparing legislation introducing rear seat belt laws for passengers and children please?

Deputy G.W.J. de Faye of St. Helier (The Minister for Transport and Technical Services):

Instructions for drafting the necessary amendments to the relevant orders have been forwarded to the law draftsman who is in the process of preparing the amendments for my approval. Subject to ensuring the draft orders meet the requirements of the States, that all persons travelling in cars and other relevant vehicles wear appropriate restraints, I would hope to make these orders in the next month or 2. I would expect the wearing of seatbelts in the rear of vehicles to become compulsory within a couple of weeks of the relevant orders being made. However, there is one element of delay, and that is I have asked that there is a period of grace included in the relevant draft order before it becomes compulsory for children between 3 and 12 to use a correct restraint for their age and weight. This is so that parents and suppliers have sufficient opportunity to confirm that either the current restraint system used by their children complies with modern standards or they are able to obtain a correct restraint system.

Deputy P.V.F. Le Claire:

I thank the Minister for his response.