

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
BY DEPUTY R.G. LE HÉRISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 10th MARCH 2009**

**Question**

“Will the Minister outline the procedure followed in appointing the organisation which will investigate the tragic death of the patient who died following an operation on 17th October 2006?”

**Answer**

The Chief Executive of the National Patient Safety Agency was contacted by my officers to provide assistance in this important process.

The Chief Executive of the National Patient Safety Agency subsequently provided me with the names of three individuals who, in his opinion, possessed the necessary expertise, knowledge and experience required to undertake an investigation of this nature.

Having considered these individuals, I instructed my officers to approach Dr Adams and a team from the UK company, Verita, to undertake the independent Serious Untoward Incident investigation (SUI). I have satisfied myself that none of this team have had prior contact with the Jersey General Hospital, nor any members of the Clinical or Senior Management Team in Jersey. I have also instructed Verita that should they wish to draw on any external expert advice, this same condition must apply

I am currently agreeing the terms of reference that I will make public. I am very confident that this team will provide a rigorous independent report and recommendations regarding the circumstances that surrounded and led up to the tragic events of 17th October 2006.