

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS  
BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 31st MARCH 2009**

**Question**

Would the Minister advise the Assembly whether talks with the United Kingdom on importing TASAR stun guns for use in Jersey have stalled and, if so, why?

Given that the Isle of Man Police now have this equipment, does the Minister consider that the use of TASARs in Jersey is appropriate?

**Answer**

Talks with the United Kingdom on importing Tasar stun guns for use in Jersey have not stalled; the matter is still actively being pursued.

Without Tasar in its armoury, the States of Jersey Police has a tactical shortfall with regards to less lethal technology that leaves the organisation (and its officers) vulnerable to both moral and legal challenge, should the Force ever have to take the life of, or seriously injure a subject.

The Conflict Management Model, contained within the ACPO Personal Safety Manual of Guidance sets out the process by which a measured and appropriate response can be made to any situation involving conflict.

The acquisition and deployment of such a technology is therefore vitally important in order to provide all available 'use of force' options for front line operational officers.

**ACPO policy highlights that TASAR is not a replacement for existing personal safety tactical options, but is a technology that should be considered alongside all other considerations i.e. Negotiation, use of baton, C.S spray and dogs. These options do not constitute a hierarchy of lawful force however should be viewed as a range of approved options from which the most proportionate and appropriate should be selected, according to circumstances, and in accordance with the conflict management model that sets out the process by which a measured and appropriate response can be made to any situation involving conflict.**

Tasars have been recommended to the States of Jersey Police by HM Inspectorate of Constabulary in order to meet their obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights (Article 2 - right to life).