

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY R.G. LE HÉRISSEIER OF ST. SAVIOUR
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 18th JANUARY 2011**

Question

What is the current political stance of the Council of Ministers with regard to calls for Jersey to become an independent jurisdiction?

Answer

Jersey is already recognised as being autonomous in domestic affairs with an increasing need to participate in matters of international affairs. The 2007 *Framework for developing the international identity of Jersey* agreed with the UK recognises that Jersey has an international identity which is different from that of the UK, that UK will not act internationally on behalf of Jersey without prior consultation and that UK will seek to represent any differing interests when acting in an international capacity.

Increased independence could be realised through Jersey seeking to establish full international sovereignty separate from the UK. In 2008 the Council of Ministers received the report of the Constitutional Review Group, chaired by the former Bailiff, which explored as a precautionary exercise the steps that might be necessary if Jersey was obliged at some time to become more independent from the United Kingdom. During 2011, the Council of Ministers will be considering an update on progress in addressing the actions recommended in this report.