WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS BY DEPUTY T.M. PITMAN OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2012

Question

Will the Minister provide for members a complete account in relation to the retirement date of the former Chief Officer of Police, setting out in particular –

- i) when he was first due to retire;
- ii) what extensions and reductions there were to this initial retirement date, and for each extension/reduction, the date of the request, details of who requested it and the grounds for the request;
- iii) what further retirement dates there were as a result of these extensions or reductions?

Answer

Mr Graham Power was appointed to the post of Chief Officer, States of Jersey Police on 1 November 2000 for a period of five years. His contract was due to terminate on 31 December 2005.

In March 2004, Mr Power wrote to the President of the Home Affairs Committee reminding her of the expiry date of his contract and suggesting that if the Committee was minded to address the issue of an extension of contract for a further two years, Mr Power was happy consider it. The Committee agreed to an extension for a further two years, which was supported by the Appointments Commission. Mr Power was formally advised of the extension on 1 June 2005 by the Chief Executive of the Human Resources Department.

As a result of general succession plan discussions in 2006, the Human Resources Department asked the States Employment Board to consider an extension to Mr Power's contract for a further three years, until December 2010, to enable the appointment of a new Deputy Chief Officer/Chief Officer Designate in mid-late 2008, so that the new incumbent could work alongside Mr Power, allowing the Force to have the necessary degree of continuity over the next few years. The request was made acknowledging the impending retirements of the Superintendent and Deputy Chief and the extremely vulnerable position this would leave the Force if all three Senior Officers were to leave at around the same time. The request was fully supported by the Home Affairs Minister, the Chief Executive of the States and the Chairman of the Jersey Appointments Commission. The States Employment Board agreed to the request in December 2006 and Mr Power was notified in January 2007. His contract was extended until 31 December 2010, subject to his being able to retire earlier upon giving six months' notice.

Mr Power formally retired from his post on 19 July 2010, having given six months' notice