

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2013**

Question

Further to the response given on 5th November 2013 by the Home Affairs Minister that the Chief Minister had commissioned a report from the Jersey Independent Safeguarding Chair into the circumstances leading to the arrest of a woman known as HG, will the Chief Minister advise –

- (a) whether a review Board has yet been appointed?
- (b) whether the review has begun?
- (c) who has been appointed?
- (d) is anyone assisting and, if so, who?
- (e) what are the review's Terms of Reference?
- (f) has HG been interviewed?
- (g) when will the review be completed?
- (h) how much has it cost?
- (i) will the Report be made public?

Answer

Jersey's Independent Safeguarding Chair commenced, in April 2013, a review of the involvement of Jersey agencies with HG, covering the period from her arrest to her departure from the Island.

In considering whether to commission a Serious Case Review under the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board, the Chair made initial requests for information from agencies that had been involved with HG.

Agencies who contributed information were the States of Jersey Police, States of Jersey Prison Service, Autism Jersey and Adult Social Services Department. The Chair also had access to court records (that were in the public domain), spoke to senior officials from The Law Officers' Department and received information from the mental health Advocate.

It was requested that the initial reports include a chronology of events, and address whether appropriate steps were taken to ensure that the individual was appropriately supported and

safeguarded. Also, to identify any lessons learned about practice (single or multi-agency) and any recommendations for future practice.

The final decision rests with the Independent Chair, with the advice of the SCR sub-group, as to whether to conduct a Serious Case Review. In this case the decision was made that the case was not appropriate for a Serious Case Review and Terms of Reference were therefore not produced. However, the Independent Chair undertook to prepare a report summarising the key issues and learning arising from this case.

The final report by the Independent Chair will be made public. Before it is published the Independent Chair will ensure that HG is provided with the opportunity to meet her, if she so wishes, and to review the report. No date for publication has been set.

The review forms part of the core activity of the Safeguarding Partnership Board; as such, it has not incurred any additional costs.