

2018.07.10

3.14 Senator K.L. Moore of the Chief Minister regarding the appointment of a Minister for Children and Housing: [OQ. 100/2018]

Following the announcement that the Chief Minister intends to appoint a Minister for Children and Housing, will the Chief Minister explain whether he considered, instead, appointing a Minister for Family and, if not, will he explain why not?

The Deputy Bailiff:

You are standing for the Chief Minister, all right. I was not quite sure.

Connétable R.A. Buchanan of St. Ouen (Assistant Chief Minister - rapporteur):

Yes, I am standing for this question. I thank the Senator for her question. By the very nature of the responsibility of the Minister for Children, he would be interested in representing the interests of families as, I think the Senator would agree, a family with children in it is probably a happy outcome for some children in this Island, so it is very much a part of the role. It is an integral part of the role. I think the question is also about focus; the role could have had a number of titles. I think the work undertaken for children is of more importance, perhaps, than the title.

3.14.1 Senator K.L. Moore:

I thank the Constable for his answer. Perhaps a title is simply a title and it is a matter of focus, so I appreciate that he is in a difficult position in not being the Chief Minister, himself. However, it would be helpful for the Assembly to understand how that is anticipated, because we cannot simply take that on face value.

The Connétable of St. Ouen:

Sorry, could I just ask the Senator if she could just, perhaps, explain the question? I did not quite understand what she was getting at.

Senator K.L. Moore:

Of course. I would simply like the Constable to explain how it is anticipated that that vision will be employed by the future Minister.

The Connétable of St. Ouen:

I thank the Senator for her question. Unfortunately, I cannot speak for the Minister himself, so I will ask the Minister and get back to you with a response.

The Deputy Bailiff:

Did you wish to have the final supplementary, Senator?

Senator K.L. Moore:

No, thank you.