WRITTEN QUESTION TO H.M. ATTORNEY GENERAL BY DEPUTY K.G. PAMPLIN OF ST. SAVIOUR ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 26th MARCH 2019

Question

Will H.M. Attorney General state, for the past 5 years, how many people have been –

- (a) charged;
- (b) prosecuted; and
- (c) convicted

for causing serious injury by dangerous driving, with the figures further broken down into the following areas:

- (i) speeding:
- (ii) carelessness;
- (iii) drink-driving;
- (iv) use of a mobile type device; and
- (v) other forms of dangerous driving?

Answer

The offence of "causing serious injury by dangerous driving" contrary to Article 23A of the Road Traffic (Jersey) Law 1956 ("the Law") was created by the Road Traffic (No.62)(Jersey) Regulations 2015 and came into force on 24 November 2015. This answer, therefore, provides the information requested in the question from that date.

At the same time the Road Traffic (No.62)(Jersey) Regulations 2015 also inserted the following Articles into the Law which came into force on the same day:

- i. Article 26A "causing serious injury by careless driving" and,
- ii. Article 26B "causing serious injury by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs"

Since 24 November 2015 for the offence of serious injury by dangerous driving:

- a. Eleven persons have been charged with the offence;
- b. Ten persons were prosecuted (by the Law Officers' Department)¹
 - i. Three cases where the dangerousness related to speed.
 - ii. Five cases related to the standard of driving falling far below that which would be expected of a competent and careful driver
 - iii. Two offences related to the consumption of alcohol.
- c. Five persons were convicted of the offence of serious injury by dangerous driving:
 - i. Two convictions where the dangerousness related to speed;

¹ Not all offences charged by Centenier will be referred to the Law Officers' Department. The Law Officers' Department only holds outcome information on the cases which it has prosecuted.

- ii. One case where the standard of driving fell far below that would be expected of a competent and careful driver; and
- iii. Two offences related to the consumption of alcohol.

In the remaining five cases, in one case a guilty plea was accepted to the offence of dangerous driving; and in the other four cases a guilty plea was accepted to causing serious injury by careless driving.