

2019.10.08

7 Deputy M.R. Higgins of the Minister for Home Affairs regarding an external peer-review of the States of Jersey Police: (OQ.244/2019)

Will the Minister advise Members whether he intends to have the States of Jersey Police externally peer-reviewed by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, or a similar body and, if so, when; and if he is not planning such a review, will he explain why not?

The Connétable of St. Clement (The Minister for Home Affairs):

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire Services carried out a review of the States of Jersey Police earlier this year and I expect the report to be published within the next few weeks.

4.7.1 Deputy M.R. Higgins:

Will the Minister tell us when the last review was carried out?

The Connétable of St. Clement:

I believe the last review was carried out in 2007, or 2008.

4.7.2 Deputy M.R. Higgins:

As the last report was 2007, or 2008, which is when the former Chief of Police, Graham Power, was suspended politically - and that is the only way it can be described - is it not the case that various bodies, including the Metropolitan Police, have been refusing to do reports on Jersey, because of the way it was abused, the Metropolitan Police interim report, for example? Is it not the case that they did not want their report used in any of the proceedings and it has caused problems for the Jersey Police since?

The Connétable of St. Clement:

I am unaware of the Metropolitan Police being asked to conduct a review into the States of Jersey Police. That is a matter for Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire Service and, as I say, that review has been carried out earlier this year. As I said just now, the report will be published within the next few weeks.

The Bailiff:

There is a lot of distracting jingling going on somewhere.

Deputy J.A. Martin of St. Helier:

Can I raise the *défait* on Deputy Labey so you can fine him? [Laughter]

The Bailiff:

Fortunately, the *défait* has already been raised, so if it were Deputy Labey, he can consider himself fined. Any further questions?

4.7.3 Deputy M.R. Higgins:

Just to refresh the Minister for Home Affairs' memory, the Metropolitan Police report of 2008 was brought as part of the political suspension of the former Chief of Police and, if the Minister can refresh his memory, he will find that the Metropolitan Police did not want it used for disciplinary purposes; it was not supposed to be used for disciplinary purposes and they have refused, since then, to get involved with the States of Jersey Police. Is that not correct?

The Connétable of St. Clement:

I was not the Minister for Home Affairs in 2007 and 2008, but can I reiterate that inspections of the States of Jersey Police are carried out by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire Services, not the Metropolitan Police.