

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 18th JUNE 2019**

Question

Will the Chief Minister explain to members when, if at all, he proposes to transfer legal powers to the Minister for Children and Housing that are currently held by other Ministers, so that one Minister is responsible for the wellbeing of children and to help to prevent further abuse of children in the Island; if he does not propose to do this, will he explain what his rationale is for not doing so; and further explain what action he intends to take instead (and by when)?

Answer

The relevant Order is being drafted, and will be tabled before the summer recess.

Obviously, it is critical that the correct legal powers be transferred in all the relevant legislation, and that the discharging of these powers within the front line services reflects this.

In the meantime, the Minister for Children and Housing is also the Assistant Minister to the Minister for Health and Social Services, where the majority of the legal powers currently reside, and so is able to discharge the responsibilities in person in this capacity.