

21.01.19

**14 Deputy K.G. Pamplin of the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding citizens' jury (OQ.20/2021):**

What has been the response from Islanders to date to the letters inviting them to take part in the Assisted Dying Citizens' Jury and its establishment being on track to meet the timetable for delivery?

**The Deputy of St. Ouen (The Minister for Health and Social Services):**

As of 18th January, 413 people had registered an interest in the citizens' jury. This is a response rate of 9 per cent of the 4,600 invitations sent, which is sufficient to select a demographically representative jury consisting of 18 to 24 members. The closing date for registration is Monday, 25th January, and the process is on track to meet the delivery timetable.

**10.14.1 Deputy K.G. Pamplin:**

Some of the feedback I have received, and I do not know if the Minister has received this, is the dates of the sessions put forward for the jury to meet on Thursdays and Saturdays, has he also heard of any feedback from Islanders where that timetable may alienate people from taking part because they really would want to but cannot be available on those set days?

**The Deputy of St. Ouen:**

No, I have not had that feedback, if the Deputy would wish to share it with me. It is correct we have proposed Thursdays and Saturdays. I imagine people will have commitments that may prevent them from attending on any number of days, so it is difficult with invites sent out to 4,600 people. But if there is a genuine difficulty here, perhaps the Deputy would share with me what he feels is a problem.

**10.14.2 Deputy C.S. Alves:**

Have any reminders been sent out to those people who received these invites? I have heard from some who were not entirely sure what it was about and have probably now forgotten to respond. So have any reminders been sent out?

**The Deputy of St. Ouen:**

No, we have not sent reminders. The letters were sent out earlier this month. It seems to me if people are interested there is still time to reply before the closing date of next Monday.

**10.14.3 Deputy K.G. Pamplin:**

Also part of the process is the putting together of the panel who will go some way in selecting and being part of the process of jury members. Does the Minister have an update of those members and when they will be publicised?

**The Deputy of St. Ouen:**

The selection of the panel is being undertaken by Sortition Foundation, who have expertise in selecting a representative group that is truly demographically representative of the Island. As to any further publicity, it will be worked out with the jury members and the Sortition Foundation and the independent advisory panel which is overseeing planning for this piece of work.