

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS
BY DEPUTY C.A. ALVES OF ST. HELIER CENTRAL
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2022
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2022**

Question

Will the Minister –

- (a) provide the most recent statistics relating to sexual offences against both men and women in Jersey;
- (b) advise the status of the Violence Against Women Group and its Terms of Reference;
- (c) advise, with reference to Written Question 122/2021, the status of the review of the contract between the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) and Jersey Action Against Rape (JAAR);
- (d) state the number of counsellors which the SARC now employ; and,
- (e) state whether she will commit to regularly publishing the statistics on sexual offences in Jersey and to assessing the impact of the Sexual Offences (Jersey) Law 2018 since its introduction?

Answer

- (a) Please see table provided below.
- (b) The Taskforce on Gender-Based Violence has now been established.

The objectives of the Taskforce as outlined in the Terms of Reference are:

- i. To undertake research to better understand the nature, extent, attitudes to, and experiences of gender-based violence in Jersey.
- ii. To examine the existing legal framework, service, and support provision in relation to gender-based violence in Jersey.
- iii. To make recommendations on how legislation, services and support could be improved and made more effective in order to reduce and prevent gender-based violence in Jersey.

The Taskforce will launch its public call for evidence on 27th September which will run until 10th December. Islanders will be able to share their views with the Taskforce in a range of ways. The public call for evidence will be complemented by some targeted research with victims-survivors, children and young people, professionals and service providers who work in this field.

- (c) A meeting is planned for the end of September with the newly appointed CEO of JAAR to review the contract.

- (d) The SARC do not employ any counsellors. Attempts were made by Mental Health Services to recruit 2 x counsellors who specialised in domestic and sexual abuse for the SARC, but this was unsuccessful.
- (e) The Minister would be content to publish these statistics every six months. It is acknowledged that there would be value in reviewing the Sexual Offences (Jersey) Law 2018, however the Minister is unable to commit to doing so at this point, due to other competing priorities. These priorities will be outlined in the upcoming Ministerial Plan. That said, and without wishing to prejudge the findings of the Taskforce on Gender Based Violence, this may be a matter which the Taskforce wish to consider as part of their work.

Sex of victim	Offence	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Male	Causing or inciting a sexual act with a male child 12 or younger		1	5		6
	Causing or inciting a sexual act with an older male child			1		1
	Causing sexual act without consent		2	1	1	4
	Gross indecency	1			1	2
	Gross indecency with child			1		1
	Incite to commit a sexual act			2		2
	Indecent assault on a female			1		1
	Indecent assault on male	6	6	3	2	17
	Indecent exposure	1	1	2		4
	Possess/distribute indecent images of child	1	1		1	3
	Rape of a female			1		1
	Rape of a male	1	2		3	6
	Rape of a male child aged 12 or younger	1	2			3
	Sexual penetration of a male child aged 12 or younger			3		3
	Sexual Penetration of a male without consent			2		2
	Sexual touching of a male child aged 12 or younger	3		3		6
	Sexual touching of a male without consent	3	2	1	2	8
	Unlawful sexual act between children	1				1
	Unlawful sexual penetration of an older male child		1			1
	Unlawful sexual touching of an older male child			1		1
Voyeurism	1			1	2	
Male Total		19	18	27	11	75
Female	Abuse of trust by a sexual act against a female child				2	2
	Administering a substance for sexual purposes				1	1
	Article 35 Sexual Offences (Jersey) law 2018 - Voyeurism				4	4
	Causing a child to be present during a sexual act				1	1
	Causing or inciting a sexual act with a female child 12 or younger	2		2	1	5
	Causing or inciting a sexual act with an older female child	2		1		3
	Causing sexual act without consent			3		3
	Commit with intent to commit a sexual offence	1				1
	Gross indecency with child	1				1
	Indecent assault on a female	10	6	9	7	32
	Indecent exposure	5	4	12	5	26
	Other sexual offences	1	1	4	1	7
	Possess/distribute indecent images of child	7	8	2	1	18
	Rape of a female	45	31	42	27	145
	Rape of a female child aged 12 or younger	4	1	1	1	7
	Sexual grooming of a female child	5	2	3	2	12
	Sexual penetration of a female child aged 12 or younger	2				2
	Sexual Penetration of a female without consent	1	8	7	5	21
	Sexual touching of a female child aged 12 or younger	10	2	7	1	20
	Sexual touching of female without consent	38	29	31	26	124
	Unlawful sexual act between children	2	2	2	6	12
	Unlawful sexual intercourse with an older female child	2	2			4
	Unlawful sexual touching of an older female child	3	1	4	3	11
Unlawful sexual touching of an older male child			1		1	
USI girl under 13 yrs.		1			1	
USI girl under 16 yrs.			1		1	
Voyeurism	1	1	1	2	5	
Female Total		142	99	133	96	470
Grand Total		161	117	160	107	545
*Female-to-male transgender victim						