

23.02.28

6 Connétable K. Shenton-Stone of St. Martin of the Minister for Home Affairs regarding the development and roll-out of the notification of domestic abusers (OQ.24/2023)

Will the Minister provide an update on the development and rollout of the notifications of domestic abusers as outlined under the Domestic Abuse (Jersey) Law 2022, with reference to what additional work is still ongoing and when this is expected to be completed?

Deputy L.M.C. Doublet of St. Saviour (Assistant Minister for Home Affairs - rapporteur):

As the Minister is out of the Island on States business she has asked me to take this question. I thank the Connétable for the question and I think I share her desire to see this law coming into force. Of course, we were both part of the previous Assembly which approved this law and it is a very, very important law for Jersey. This was raised by the Scrutiny Panel at our recent public hearing and they asked the same question. The Minister was very clear on this, that the work from the Home Affairs team at this stage of the process has already been completed and, indeed, the work of the Assembly which approved the law. At this stage we are waiting for the Rules of Court which is a process, so the Criminal Procedure Rules, so those rules are made in accordance with Criminal Procedure Law by the Criminal Procedure Rules Committee. I have been learning about these processes, as I think several of us have been. So this is with the Law Officers' Department currently and once those rules are in place and the courts are in a position to effectively operate the legislation, the Minister will as soon as possible bring in an Appointed Day Act to the Assembly to bring the law into force. I do not think it could be of a higher priority to the Ministerial team and we want to see that law enforced as soon as possible.

The Bailiff:

A supplemental, Connétable?

The Connétable of St. Martin:

No, thank you. I thank the Assistant Minister for her answer.