

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY M.R. SCOTT OF ST. BRELADE
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 18th SEPTEMBER 2023
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 25th SEPTEMBER 2023**

Question

“In light of concerns relating to communications on the part of Government or by Government officers and the recent disclosure of the number of staff in and cost of its communication function, will the Chief Minister –

- (a) undertake a review into the cost, structure, and quality of the Communications function within the Cabinet Office as a matter of urgency, as well as the social media policy for Government officers;
- (b) for the purposes of the review, compare the cost and numbers of staff employed in Government communications with other small jurisdictions and if not, why not; and

if not, why not?”

Answer

As part of the ongoing development of the Cabinet Office, Ministers will continue to keep under consideration the whole Cabinet Office function and how this can most effectively support the work of Jersey’s Government and the services it provides, ensuring that important information is provided to the public in a clear, open and understandable manner. This will include, for example, public health information, internal communications, as well as communicating Government policy and its implementation.

Work is already being undertaken by the Interim Chief Executive and will include looking at examples of good practice in other comparable jurisdictions so that improvements can be made across the Cabinet Office, and value for money achieved for taxpayers.

The review of protocols, which includes the social media policy for Government officers, is ongoing and part of business-as-usual activity. This reflects one of our public sector values which is “Always Improving”.