WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS BY DEPUTY M.B. ANDREWS OF ST HELIER NORTH QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2024 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 2024

Question

"Will the Minister advise the total number of deaths by suicide in the Island over the last 5 years?"

Answer

Statistics on suicide are based on the National Statistics definition, encompassing all deaths from intentional self-harm among individuals aged 10 years and over, as well as deaths resulting from injury or poisoning where the intent was undetermined for those aged 15 years and over. The cause of death is determined using the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10).

When a death occurs unexpectedly, a Coroner investigates to ascertain the cause. Inquests for deaths that may involve suicide can be protracted, sometimes lasting months or even years. Consequently, reporting on suicide deaths typically occurs retrospectively.

The 2022 Mortality report, with Suicide data for 2021, was initially released on 28 Sep 2023 and will be updated annually, with the next report expected to be published or September 2024. This forthcoming report will include suicide data for 2022.

Jersey Mortality Report 2022.pdf (gov.je)

As of the Mortality report's publication, comprehensive data on deaths by suicide was only available up to 2021 due to ongoing inquests.

Number of deaths due to suicide in Jersey (2017 to 2021)

| Year | Number |
|------|--------|
| 2017 | 7 |
| 2018 | 13 |
| 2019 | 12 |
| 2020 | 6 |
| 2021 | 6 |