

**Minister for Home Affairs
Justice and Home Affairs**



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Deputy Robert Ward
Chair
Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Morier House
Halkett Place
St Helier
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15 June 2020


Dear Robert

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the emergency and frontline services efforts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic at the recent public hearing.

You have asked several follow up questions. I have appended my answers to your questions to this letter.

I look forward to speaking to you again soon.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'L' followed by a horizontal line.

**Connétable Len Norman
Minister for Home Affairs**

Follow up questions/requests from Education and Home Affairs Panel public hearing with the Minister for Home Affairs

General Questions

1. Can further details of the business case outlining additional funding for the Jersey Women's Refuge be shared with the Panel?

At the start of the Covid-19 outbreak, the Government of Jersey took action to make sure that individuals and families had access to safe accommodation and were not put at risk of homelessness. This included working with voluntary and community organisations that provide accommodation and support – e.g. The Sanctuary Trust, The Shelter Trust and The Women's Refuge – to identify their needs and increase resources to manage an anticipated increase in demand.

The Women's Refuge was able to access charitable funding for new temporary premises. The Government supported the Refuge in finding suitable temporary accommodation.

The Shelter Trust has also accessed additional temporary accommodation for service users. The Government has provided just over £16,000 towards the cost of the lease.

Up to £100,000 has been made available towards the cost of emergency accommodation during the Covid-19 outbreak. This funding is available from Covid-19 operational business expenditure. The level of expenditure does not require a business case, but if the funding required were to rise above £100,000, which is not currently anticipated, it would need a business case to be approved.

The Government is continuing to work closely with organisations such as The Shelter Trust and The Women's Refuge. If there is a need for additional support – including funding for accommodation – the Government will look to support them with additional resources.

2. When is the Minister due to bring forward an amendment to the unlawful public entertainments Regulations as agreed in response to the Panel's comments on [P.24/2020](#)?

When I took P.24/2020 through the Assembly, I agreed that I would bring an amendment to time limit its affect until the end of September, in line with other Covid-19 legislation. I will honour that commitment. However, since the amendment was passed I have reflected further on the matter. I believe that the amendment was right and proper and should continue to have affect in the Regulations. If the Panel would still like me to amend the regulations, then I intend to speak against it and to vote against it. I would be grateful if the Panel could let me know how it would like me to proceed.

3. Can you confirm that all work on the target operating model for Justice and Home Affairs has been paused at this time?

The consultation period on the Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Phase 2 Target Operating Model (TOM) closed on 27 March 2020. Further work was paused at this time, initially in recognition of the substantial operational challenge of the Covid-19 response, and then in line with the Government's People Services corporate policy. JHA senior officers, however, are now intending to issue a formal consultation response to staff and unions, setting out the final structure, and we propose to move to implement those areas of the TOM that will

enhance business continuity. My service heads have designed structures that they believe will enable them to deliver front line services in the best possible way and we believe that JHA is therefore best served by putting those structures in place as soon as possible. We are also conscious that many staff have been through a period of prolonged uncertainty, and I believe that it is in everyone's interest to resolve this as soon as practicable.

4. What policies have JHA put in place to support front line staff and ensure they are not being burnt out during the current outbreak?

Each JHA service has had its own arrangements to support front line staff during the Covid-19 outbreak. All services have publicised the Government's Wellbeing arrangements, including the Thrive app and access to the AXA Be Support initiatives. My senior leaders have benefitted from coaching from Team Jersey, and our staff have been encouraged to look at Team Jersey tips online. All service heads have ensured that their staff are taking appropriate annual leave and rest breaks, and no leave rotas were disrupted with the exception of a brief period in the Ambulance Service. Given the nature of their work, frontline services also have long-established peer and professional support mechanisms which can be accessed in challenging circumstances.

The specific service arrangements are set out below.

States of Jersey Prison Service (SoJPS):

The SoJPS has mostly been operating normally and has not made any changes to its rotational shift patterns due to the demands of prisoner-facing work. However, teams of four were split in two to create two teams with alternating attendance. Part time home working was permitted when possible.

Alongside these practical measures the Staff Care Team has been actively supporting staff away from the work place with all kinds of issues. The Care Team is a long-established peer support voluntary group which works in a supportive and confidential way, fully supported by the SoJPS management.

Individual needs have been addressed as they have arisen, and emergency accommodation has been used when required.

States of Jersey Ambulance Service (SoJAS):

Regular proactive contact from managers, and 1:1 meetings, to ensure wellbeing. Staff have been fast tracked to counselling services at an earlier stage than normal. In order to meet the increasing demand on the service staff numbers were increased, taking on around 40 additional staff and volunteers (not all were used); some were contracted, others were zero hours. This was to cope with demand from the initial predictions but also served to reduce demand on existing crews.

Staff health was safeguarded by splitting teams across two stations and arranging for them to work in small bubbles. Work was then distributed across the two teams, with two twelve hour shifts. The rosters will return to normal in July.

Jersey Customs and Immigration Service (JCIS):

Split shifts were arranged to ensure staff health was protected. Managers ensured wellbeing with regular checks on staff. Staff worked at home wherever practicable. Individual risk assessments are being carried out for vulnerable staff who will return to the workplace to reduce any anxiety/stress that may be associated with this. In addition, the controls are being adapted to ensure the officers are protected. This is important in ensuring the staff feel protected when controls recommence, for example when a passenger coughs/sneezes at passport control. There are in-house trained mental health first aiders.

States of Jersey Police Force – Covid-19 response

5. Of the 21 arrests made to date in relation to breaches of the stay at home order, could further details be provided of the punishments that have been issued for each offence? (e.g. fines, warnings, incarceration etc.)

There have been 19 arrests. The enforcement figure of 21 includes the enforcement of a business closure and transportation of an adult to their home address under Covid-19 legislation. However, it does not include the transportation of juveniles under Covid-19 legislation.

04/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrest, Charge & Fine	£500
06/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrest, Charge & Fine	£500
06/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrest, Charge & Fine	£300
06/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrest, Charge & Fine	£400
08/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrest, Charge & Fine	£500
08/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrested but detention not authorised. Big Word used to fully explain the law.	N/A

09/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrested and investigated which resulted in words of advice being issued by Centenier.	N/A
10/04/2020	Article 5	Arrested and transported home.	
11/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrest, Charge & Fine.	£300
12/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrest, Charge & Fine.	£300
14/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrest, Charge & Fine.	£300
14/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrest, Charge & Fine.	£300
18/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrest, Charge & Fine.	£300
20/04/2020	Article 5(6)	Arrested, interviewed and released with words of advice after Law Officer Department advice sought.	WoA
22/04/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrested and released with words of advice.	WoA
03/05/2020	Article 5(6)	Arrested for Covid-19 Regs and breach of the peace but only processed for the breach of the peace at court.	N/A

06/05/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrested and released with words of advice by Centenier.	WoA
19/05/2020	Article 5(6)	Interviewed for offence along with other traffic matters. Dealt with by words of advice by officer in charge.	WoA
23/05/2020	Article 5(6) - Covid-19 (Screening, Assessment and Isolation) (Jersey) Regulations 2020	Arrested and released with words of advice.	N/A

6. How many of the arrests made have been under-18's?

- For Covid-19 offences – None
- 3 x Juveniles were transported home using the Regulation 5 powers.

7. How many words of advice have been issued to children (i.e. Under 18's)?

- 333 Words of Advice (WoA) issued to U18's

8. What details are collected from young people when giving words of advice? What records are kept?

- Name & Date of Birth
- Time & Date
- Location
- Circumstances for WoA
- Details of the officer issuing the WoA

Note – Additionally if the young person had never been in contact with the police before, their full details including address and parent/guardian would be recorded to enable the WoA to be documented on the police system.

9. Can the Panel receive a periodical breakdown of all statistics relating to the operation of the SoJP during the Covid-19 outbreak (e.g. number of calls received, response rates, arrests, words of advice and staffing levels). For context the Panel has been receiving weekly PowerPoint presentations from the Children's Service that give a detailed overview of the stats in relation to each area of its operation.

I assume that would like this information in relation to COVID-19 activity only. Below is a list of statistics relating to the operation of the SoJP during the Covid-19 outbreak:

- 19 arrests for breaches of Covid-19 legislation
- 621 Covid-19 related logs recorded since the 30/03/20. (These are the result of calls and do not represent self-generated activity).

- 1,614 WoA issued for breaches of Covid-19 legislation
- 1,283 Occasions when premises were visited to ensure compliance with legislation.
- 244 Occasions when licensed premises were visited to ensure compliance with legislation.
- 7 Premises closed
- 1,130 Stop Checks conducted
- 8,380 Vehicles stopped
- 1,642 Occasions when Parks/Beaches were visited
- Absence – From the 01/03/20 – 04/06/20 the sickness average percentage of police officers and staff is 5.35%.

Note - the statistics contained in this document were accurate as of 5 June 2020.

