

Chief Minister



19-21 Broad Street | St Helier
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Deputy Rob Ward

Chair, Safer Travel Guidelines Review Panel

BY EMAIL

28 July 2021

Dear Chair,

Thank you for your letter, dated 5 July.

Dealing with your queries in date order, I can confirm the following:

1. That the reduction in isolation requirements for children was a CAM decision made on 29 June subsequent to a STAC discussion on 28 June on the same subject. A paper developed by Public Health on the science; together with options, informed both meetings. At STAC no single option was the subject of complete consensus and as such Ministers were briefed on the range of issues raised.
2. Changes to the Safer Travel Policy were made on 2 July in order to prevent a possible loophole in our border, whereby an arrival to Jersey from a UK 'Red List' country might, by virtue of a direct travel route, circumnavigate the UK's 10 day quarantine hotel requirement and pose risk of variant seeding to Jersey. These changes were made on the basis of an evidenced based public health paper and consultation with STAC.
3. The removal of isolation requirements for Direct Contacts was made at an urgent meeting of Ministers on Sunday 4 July. As you are aware, the weight of demand, combined with a number of operational issues, required Ministers to act quickly. Policy advice over the weekend was provided by public health, in close consultation with a number of leading members of STAC. At the meeting of STAC the following day, my understanding is that members were supportive of the action taken.

As you say, the situation is rapidly evolving, and I would be supportive of a briefing to scrutiny.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John Le Fondré".

Senator John Le Fondré

Chief Minister