

2019.03.26

18 Deputy K.G. Pamplin for the Minister for Home Affairs regarding the use of tasers in 2018 by the States of Jersey Police: [OQ.85/2019]

Will the Minister explain the circumstances in which Tasers were used twice by the States of Jersey Police in 2018, as indicated in the annual report of the Jersey Police Complaints Authority and advise whether they were used to protect individuals from self-harming, as reported?

The Connétable of St. Clement (The Minister for Home Affairs):

I can confirm a Taser was used twice in 2018 to protect individuals from harming themselves. The use of Taser allowed the officers to safely restrain those involved, who were in a volatile state, so that they could receive treatment.

3.18.1 Deputy K.G. Pamplin:

Will the Minister go further and explain if the incidences were at a hospital facility, or in the public domain and what the protocol and procedures were, including support from mental health staff to de-escalate the situation?

The Connétable of St. Clement:

As far as I am aware, the incidents took place outside of the hospital situation. Tasers, like firearms, can only be utilised by authorised firearms officers, with the authorisation of a tactical firearms commander. In these particular incidents, I cannot say any further about who else was involved, but certainly they were restrained, so they could receive the appropriate treatment, which I understand was given. Exactly by whom, I cannot say.

The Deputy Bailiff:

Final supplementary Deputy? Very well, that brings questions ... sorry, we had already got to the final supplementary, I am afraid.