WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, SPORT AND CULTURE BY THE CONNÉTABLE OF ST. JOHN ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2012

Question

Following the United Kingdom Government's announcement of plans to organise a commemoration of the centenary of the First World War, would the Minister inform members whether his Department will also be commemorating the event and ensuring that schoolchildren are made aware of the part played by many islanders in the conflict where many paid the supreme sacrifice, if not, would he explain why?

Answer

Yes, the Department will be commemorating the centenary of the First World War in many ways.

The centenary of the First World War will be addressed in primary and secondary schools through history and cultural studies, and school assemblies will also provide an opportunity for commemoration and reflection. Remembrance services are an important element of the school calendar, and they will have a particular significance when we reach the centenary in November 2014. In this way schools will work to ensure that students are made aware of the part played by islanders in the conflict. I also intend to discuss this event with the Curriculum Council to see if there are any further steps that could be taken to mark this event in the context of the school curriculum.

Jersey Heritage, which is part-funded by ESC, is planning to commemorate the event with a number of projects with a community and educational focus, looking particularly at the part played by Islanders in the conflict.

With regard to the wider commemoration of the centenary by the Island as a whole, a group of interested bodies is to be assembled by the Bailiff's Chambers, and Education, Sport and Culture will be participating in the work of that group.