WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BY DEPUTY J.M. MAÇON OF ST. SAVIOUR ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2017

Question

Following the publication of the 'Independent Jersey Care Inquiry Report' (R.59/2017), will the Minister advise whether the adequacy of the response to the recommendations of the 'Williamson Report' into vulnerable children has been re-examined and will the Minister produce an RAG (Red-Amber-Green) action plan against every recommendation of the 'Williamson Report' which explains the progress his Department has made on implementation; and, if not, why not?

Answer

On 4 February 2009, the then HSSD Minister presented the Williamson Report – implementation plan approval and funding (R.8/2009) to the States. Since then, the HSSD Minister has reported to the Assembly on several occasions in relation to progress, including a detailed answer to written question 9147 on 19 January 2016. It is important to stress that the work in relation to the Williamson recommendations (which included other departments as well as Health and Social Services) was largely complete by 2013, when the associated funding ended as agreed.

The Children's Service has also been working to an improvement plan since 2016, reporting to the Children's Services Improvement Board chaired by the Chief Minister.

Since this time, the agenda has moved on and been superseded particularly by the work of the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry (IJCI) and the publication of the IJCI Report on 3 July 2017.

The Inquiry Response Group, comprising a number of senior officers, is tasked with planning and developing a response for Jersey to the Report. The Chief Minister has committed to bringing an initial plan to the Assembly in response to the Report in autumn 2017.