QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOME AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2003, BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT

Question

Would the President inform members whether the States of Jersey Police has made any changes to its working relationship with the Honorary Police, and, if so, whether the Committee is content with the changes?

Answer

The working relationship between the States and the Honorary Police has benefited from a number of positive developments, for example –

- (a) Joint participation in Operation FOCUS in St. Helier,
- (b) Joint operations elsewhere in the Island to address vandalism and disorder, and,
- (c) The presence of Honorary Police officers at weekly specialised tasking meetings.

In consultation with the Comité des Connétables, the Home Affairs Committee is seeking to bring both Honorary and States policing within a combined framework of accountability. The States of Jersey Police and the Home Affairs Committee are in the process of developing a Memorandum of Understanding which seeks, for the first time, to set out a framework in which States and Honorary officers share responsibility for responding to calls from the public. The Home Affairs Committee and the Comité des Connétables met yesterday to discuss an amended draft of the Memorandum of Understanding. This will now be forwarded to the Attorney General and the Honorary Police for their comments. The Home Affairs Committee is committed to providing the people of Jersey with the best possible police service of any comparable jurisdiction and recognises the important contribution that the Honorary Police will continue to make in delivering this.