

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

Question

Given that in certain services such as the military or police, complaints against senior officers can only be investigated by an officer of either the same or a superior rank, will the Minister advise whether such a policy applies to investigations of complaints against senior staff undertaken by his Department's governance team or whether members of the governance team can undertake such investigations regardless of their own level of seniority?

Answer

Health and Social Services has a mix of internal and external policies and procedures under which investigations relating to senior staff may occur. These include, for example, raising serious concerns, individual grievances, bullying and harassment, and complaints policies, which are available on the Internet or intranet as appropriate.

In the case of a senior officer, a more senior officer would commission any investigation and then make a decision on the basis of the facts presented. Where appropriate or necessary, independent investigators will be appointed from outside Health and Social Services.