

2.11 Deputy T.M. Pitman of the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture regarding the dismissal of staff convicted of sexual assaults on children:

Would the Minister confirm that any member of staff convicted of sexual assaults on children would be instantly dismissed from his department and would not be allowed to “resign with dignity” and carry on teaching during the period of notice?

Deputy P.J.D. Ryan of St. John (The Minister for Education, Sport and Culture):

I can confirm that any member of staff convicted of sexual assaults on children would be dismissed from my department and would neither be allowed to resign with dignity nor carry on teaching during the period of notice. Furthermore, any dismissal of this type would be reported to the U.K. Independent Safeguarding Authority that determines who should be barred from working with children.

2.11.1 Deputy T.M. Pitman:

I thank the Minister for his answer and it is reassuring. I use that term “resign with dignity” because it is a quote from the Sharp Report from a U.K. child abuse website. Could the Minister also confirm that given those words were used by a then vice-principal of a school, that adequate training is in place so that such an outdated attitude to child abuse would never happen today.

The Deputy of St. John:

In my answer I have stated what the current Education Department’s policy is and that is quite clear. I do not intend to comment on past policy, only current or future policy.