WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2018

Question

Will the Chief Minister undertake to consider the PWC publication from 2015 entitled 'Redefining Local Government' and to provide his assessment of the extent, if any, to which the development of the Target Operating Model for the public sector matches the principles outlined in that publication, particularly with regard to Figure 2 (regarding where savings arise) and the subjects of outsourcing and staff terms and conditions?

Answer

On initial review, my assessment is that the PWC publication from 2015 entitled 'Redefining Local Government' is a sensible document, and indeed, it has shared components with our Target Operating Model, including a focus on digital, data analytics, and strategic planning frameworks. This is welcome.

However, while we can learn from approaches taken elsewhere, and past practises locally, including with reference to the elements in Figure 2 - such as outsourcing, collaborative working, shared services, and staff terms and conditions - our government must determine its own course, with reference to the approaches adopted by local government, but also other jurisdictions.

Indeed, Jersey faces distinct circumstances, including some distinct advantages - such as being able to make our laws and determine how we raise income, and arguably a greater ability as a small Island community to work collaboratively across the political spectrum and across the private and public sectors. We must therefore learn, while fashioning our own solutions.