

22.02.08

5 Connétable K. Shenton-Stone of St. Martin of the Minister for Home Affairs regarding the Task Force on Women's Safety (OQ.18/2022):

Will the Minister outline the recruitment strategy for the Task Force on Women's Safety, including its composition and whether anyone employed by the States Employment Board or an active or former Member of the States Assembly will be a member and, if so, who?

Deputy G.C. Guida (The Minister for Home Affairs):

I think this is rather a good question. When I discussed with the Constable about her amendment to the Government Plan it did feel that she wanted as wide as possible a response, as holistic as possible a response as could be achieved. I made a point to ensure that whoever we put in the task force, again, was picked up from as ranging sources as possible. This is a non-exclusive list but we do intend to include the States of Jersey Police, Her Majesty's Prison at La Moye, the Probation and After-Care Service, Social Care Services, the Jersey Domestic Abuse Service, the Jersey Sexual Assault Referral Centre or Independent Sexual Violence Advisers, Victims First Jersey and of course all this will be led by the Strategic Policy, Performance and Population office, which we say it is above the Government and is very well placed to avoid silos. We will also invite - slightly outside of the Government - schools to participate and charities and other non-governmental organisations, like the Women's Refuge and Jersey Actions Against Rape, if they wanted to participate. Of course we will also want representatives of the Assembly to be in the task force, and I will take advantage of this opportunity to invite the Constable to join us, if she wishes.

3.5.1 The Connétable of St. Martin:

I thank the Minister for his very thorough answer and I would just like to know: does the Minister intend to publish these details and the task force's terms of references and its scope on the gov.je website?

Deputy G.C. Guida:

Yes, absolutely. We hope to have a head for the task force before the end of the month and we hope to have our first meeting before the end of the month as well, so this is being done urgently.

3.5.2 Deputy L.M.C. Doublet of St. Saviour:

I wanted to ask the Minister about the task force when it is set up. What will be the first items on the agenda of the task force? As part of that first meeting, would the Minister agree to discuss with the task force about the consultation into this area? The Minister will recall that I questioned him as a supplementary to Constable Shenton-Stone's question and he committed to carrying out a survey, which he has since said will just be a consultation in a Scrutiny hearing. Would the Minister ...

The Bailiff:

Deputy, I am afraid I must ... Deputy.

Deputy L.M.C. Doublet:

Yes, I have not finished the question, Sir. Would the Minister agree to just check this ...

The Bailiff:

Deputy, when I interject Members stop speaking, please. They do not say, yes, I am just about to finish or anything because you prejudged what I was going to ask, which is how does this relate to

the recruitment strategy? You seem to be talking about the contents of what the first meeting is going to be and not the recruitment strategy, which is what the main question is about. I was asking: does this relate to the recruitment strategy?

Deputy L.M.C. Doublet:

Okay, Sir. What I am asking is once those individuals are recruited, will the Minister ask those individuals at the first meeting about his decision over a survey versus the consultation as their first piece of work?

The Bailiff:

I am afraid, Deputy, that simply does not amount to the recruitment strategy, it is what takes place after recruitment has taken place and I am afraid that is outside the parameters of the question. I am sorry, I cannot allow that.