1240/5/1(73)

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 30TH JANUARY 2017

Question

Further to written question 1(33) on 17th January 2017, will the Minister explain why he stated in the response to that question that "no consultants (whether external consultants or hospital consultants) advised the board in relation to the Health and Social Services Department recommendation to rescind / withdraw [the offer of employment]" when the report of the States of Jersey Complaints Board (R.75/2016) highlighted the presence of hospital consultants at the States Employment Board meeting at which the decision to terminate Mr Alwitry's contract was ratified?

Answer

Written question 1(33) was interpreted as referring to the decision to rescind the contract of employment by HSSD which took place on 22nd November 2012. In the specific, the earlier answer referred to is accurate.

The SEB was advised by the then States of Jersey HR Director of the decision via email for information which included a letter from the HSSD HR Director which stated that the Medical Directors, Clinical Director, Ministers and Hospital senior management supported termination of the contract.

If the question refers to advice received subsequent to the decision then clearly both clinical leaders and the external consultants who provided the three review reports provided information to the Board. The decision to terminate rested with HSSD under delegated authority and the Board's reviews were designed to assure itself that the decision taken was both appropriate and proportionate.