WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS BY DEPUTY J.H. YOUNG OF ST. BRELADE ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 3rd JUNE 2014

Question

Will the Minister inform the Assembly of the Home Affairs Department's policy in respect of the services which are presently available for separated families and provide details of the professional support, funding and facilities provided by the Department to Milli's Child Centre at Bel Royal School?

What urgent action, if any, is the Minister taking to ensure this vital service is able to continue at the end of June 2014 when Milli's is due to close?

Answer

As one of the three Ministers responsible for the strategic framework for children and young people in Jersey, I agree with the policies set out within the framework. As detailed therein, the focus is to ensure that services and policies minimise the impact of breakdown of family relationships.

The Home Affairs Department does not provide any professional support, funding or facilities for the Milli's Child Contact Centre and I believe that the primary responsibility for this area properly lies with my colleague, the Minister for Health and Social Services, who has responsibility inter alia for the Children's Service.

I was not aware that Milli's was about to close and will discuss this issue with the other Ministers on the Children's Policy Group.