

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 16TH JANUARY 2018**

Question

Will the Chief Minister advise members whether the material collected by the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry that has been given to Jersey Archive will be open for examination by the public and, if there are different release dates for some of the information, evidence what those release dates are?

Answer

Jersey Archive has now begun the major project to archive all public documents from the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry. Content should start appearing online in early 2018, however it will take two to three years to process all the documents.

The Archive's team have already received around 250,000 individual pages in digital form. This is the biggest digital archive ever to be managed by Jersey Archive whose staff will work with sensitivity and care over the next couple of years sorting, cataloguing and indexing the material.

Where possible, members of the public will have full and open access to these documents. Any material that could identify witnesses who asked to remain anonymous, will be kept off-island and out of the public domain for an extended period which will be determined by relevant legislation.

The Greffier and the Archivist will be discussing this matter with the UK authorities. Once a decision has been reached on how the sensitive material will be archived, details will be announced.

The Inquiry highlighted the importance of public access to the redacted material. The Jersey Archive will work with survivors and interested parties to develop a section of the archive online catalogue which is dedicated to the IJCI.

The documents that are already online will remain available in their current form until this work is complete.