

3.7 Deputy S.M. Ahier of St. Helier North of the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development regarding plans for a Regulatory Authority under proposed changes for Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974 (OQ.132/2025):

Following the consultation on proposed amendments to the Licensing (Jersey) Law 1974, will the Minister advise whether he intends to set up a stand-alone Regulatory Authority for the distribution of licences or give this responsibility to the Jersey Gambling Commission?

Deputy K.F. Morel of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity (The Minister for Sustainable Economic Development):

The Island's gambling and alcohol licensing laws are to be kept separate in any changes to liquor licensing. However, the recent public consultation does note the synergy in having a shared regulator for both laws. At this stage, it has not yet been determined finally whether this will be via a renamed and expanded gambling commission or in the form of a new body. Just for clarification, a new body that undertakes both functions.

3.7.1 Deputy S.M. Ahier:

If it is the intention for the Minister to set up a new regulatory authority, is it the Minister's intention for the Licensing Authority to take on the responsibilities of the Gambling Commission in the future to avoid unnecessary costs?

Deputy K.F. Morel:

As I understand the question, then the answer would be yes. My intention is that there is one authority and that it would undertake both the alcohol licensing and the Gambling Commission's functions. But obviously, those functions will be determined by 2 separate laws. The laws will remain separate, but one authority can undertake both. This is part of that idea that we want to reduce, as previous questions and answers have suggested. We do not want to create more arm's-length bodies, and I think the synergies between these 2 are quite strong.