

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. MARY
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 6th OCTOBER 2009**

Question

Can the Chief Minister advise the Assembly of the number of meetings of the Emergencies Council held in the last three years, and whether the Minutes of its meetings can be viewed by members?

Answer

The Emergency Council has met on the following occasions during the past three years:

During **2007** the Council met on Thursday 17th May 2007 and participated in an all day multi-agency counter terrorist 'Exercise Flying Swan' on Saturday 17th November 2007;

During **2008** the Council met on Monday 7th July 2008;

During **2009** the Council met on Tuesday 6th January 2009. On Monday 23rd February 2009 the Council participated in an all day multi-agency exercise to test the Island's preparedness for Pandemic Influenza 'Exercise Cold Play'.

The Council met again on Friday 1st May 2009 and Friday 14th August 2009 to discuss the States response to Swine Flu and has further meetings scheduled for Friday 9th October and Monday 7th December 2009.

The minutes of these meetings are confidential to the Emergencies Council and may only be viewed by States Members with the approval of the Chief Minister (Chairman of the Emergencies Council).

Further Information

During June this year, all States Members were sent a personal copy of a publication compiled by the Emergency Planning Officer to assist them in their understanding of the role of the Emergencies Council and the Island Resilience Structure. The publication was titled, 'A Guide to Dealing with Emergencies, Ministers and States Members Handbook'.