

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 4th JUNE 2013**

Question

Does the Minister consider that the move to Ministerial government has resulted in the transfer of substantial amounts of decision-making to the public sector and, if so, does he believe that officers involved should be required to make a declaration of financial and property interests in the same way as States Members, to allay suspicion of influence during decision-making and, if not why not?

Answer

Within our system of government, Ministers are responsible for policy decisions and make decisions according to the powers and duties identified in the law. Ministers may delegate functions to an Assistant Ministers or to an officer. Officers support Ministers in developing and implementing policies, and in delivering public services. Officers are accountable to Ministers, who in turn are accountable to the Assembly.

Accounting officers are required to disclose all material interests and these are included in the Accounts if they are considered to be significant to the individual's role. Under Financial Reporting Manual requirements a Register of Interests/Related Parties Declaration is completed each year by senior officers. This records details of company directorships held by officers or their close family, details of other interests and details of close family members referred to in any disclosures or who have material transactions with the States.