WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND HOUSING BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2018

Question

Will the Minister advise members how much money was paid in respect of the following?

- (a) to survivors of abuse in Jersey under the Historic Abuse Redress Scheme;
- (b) to lawyers acting for the States (breaking down the total figure into the amounts paid to each of the law firms who represented the States of Jersey Police, the Department of Health and Social Services, the States Greffe or any other relevant departments, and any specific individuals concerned); and
- (c) to lawyers acting for the survivors.

Answer

To date, the monies paid in relation to the Historic Redress Scheme (HARS) and associated matters are:

- (a) survivors of abuse: £2,345,642;
- (b) lawyers acting for the States: £2,965,288. These monies relate to the establishment and management of HARS, plus matters relating to late and usual claims and legal advice relating to the potential establishment of a new redress scheme (HARS 2). HARS scheme costs were central costs and were not incurred by other Departments;
- (c) lawyers acting for survivors: £1,020,428.

The current HARS scheme (HARS) provided for survivors to apply for monies to support therapy costs. These monies continue to be claimed.

In December this year, the Council of Ministers will be asked to consider whether a new redress scheme should be established to provide redress beyond the existing HARS criteria. Provisionally known as HARS 2, the new scheme would provide awards that fairly reflect the severity of the harm or abuse suffered and would also seek to rebalance the monies paid to survivors and those required for administration and legal costs.