

2016.04.26

**3.9 Deputy J.A. Martin of St. Helier of the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding kinship fostering arrangements:**

Are kinship fostering arrangements different from other fostering and if they are can the Minister explain why and how?

**Senator A.K.F. Green (The Minister for Health and Social Services):**

Jersey makes no distinction between kinship foster carers - these days known as connected persons - and other mainstream carers. When it is not appropriate or safe for a young child or person to remain in the care of their parents the Children's Services always look to family members first to provide alternative care. This provides a child or young person with somebody familiar with them. A connected person carer could be a grandparent, an aunt, an uncle, a brother, sister, step-parent and the connected person or kinship carer is only assessed for the specific child whereas foster carers are assessed for all children.

**3.9.1 Deputy J.A. Martin:**

I thank the Minister for his answer. I had to ask this in a question time because I looked on the Minister's own website to find out arrangements for current kinship arrangements and there is nothing, and I apologise if I have missed it. Can the Minister undertake to look at his own website and see if it gives enough information on a connected person or kinship arrangements?

**Senator A.K.F. Green:**

I apologise to the Member if we have missed something and I take on board her point and I will look at it, and if she has missed it I will point it out and if she has not I will have it added.