

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY J.H. PERCHARD OF ST. SAVIOUR
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2019**

Question

What is the Government of Jersey's official stance on the death penalty in respect of the Island's external relations, in particular relations with countries in which citizens may be sentenced to death for having consensual same-sex intercourse?

Answer

Jersey opposes the death penalty in all circumstances. Jersey is committed to the principle of non-discrimination on all recognised grounds, including on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. We support the UK's foreign policy in giving priority to the protection and promotion of human rights, including lesbian, gay and transgender rights.

The Ministry of External Relations keeps Jersey's engagement with international partners under careful review. This includes monitoring political, economic and human rights developments to ensure that we prioritise the development of relations with appropriate jurisdictions.

Where we have concerns regarding human rights abuses such as the death penalty we raise the matter with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, which represents our interests overseas. Officials in the Ministry of External Relations are in regular contact with counterparts at British Embassies and High Commissions in priority countries, and with counterparts on FCO desks in London. This ensures we coordinate our approach on human rights issues with the UK, which exercises the ultimate international responsibility in this area.

Cost of Producing Answer

As a means of giving an approximate indication to the time and cost of producing an answer to a written question, it has been decided that answers shall include a cost, broken down by civil service grade:

Civil Servant Grade 12 x 1 hour: £30

Total: £25