WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS

BY DEPUTY R.G. LE HÉRISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 28TH APRIL 2009

Question

"Would the Minister explain how the recent advertisement for a Personal Assistant and Secretary to provide services to himself and the Department's Senior Management Team is consistent with seeking efficiencies in government?"

Answer

The Home Affairs Department has been fortunate to date in having had no need to provide administrative support to previous Ministers, who had different working arrangements. Consequently, although the Department has been able to make running cost savings in the past, it is nevertheless the case that Ministers cannot function efficiently without the appropriate level of administrative support.

The advertised post is part-time and seeks to provide support to the Minister and Assistant Minister who are now based within the department. The new appointee will only provide cover to the wider Department in the absence of the Department's only other PA / secretary, who currently provides all administrative support.