

Dear Deputy Macon,

We should not be slaves to some form of Police fashion.

There is no justification for Taser procurement or use, just as there was no justification for the procurement of a Volvo V 70 motorway chase car by the last Chief of the States Police.

Jersey is a very peaceful place by any comparison with similar UK areas. Its greatest threat is from criminals wishing to undermine our financial and legal services. This clearly has to be the highest policing priority and is one that does not involve public disorder.

At a time of increasing economic difficulty, governments and Ministers within it, have to decide on priorities. We have already indulged our Police with the return of motorcycles. Tasers are a long way down any sensible priority list.

In the meantime, the Chief Officer of the States Police (he does not carry a warrant card, so is not a policeman in legal terms. He simply wears a uniform to distinguish his position.) seems to be a very good choice. I therefore would not wish him to leave because of an issue over Tasers. That said, no civil servant should be allowed to threaten the political process.

With best wishes,

Bruce Willing