

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY J.A. HILTON OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 14TH MARCH 2017**

Question

Further to his answer during questions without notice on the 17th January 2017 to my question about an independent audit of the Children's Service by the Scottish Inspection Board or a similar organisation, that the matter "*is in hand*", will the Minister advise when this inspection will take place and who will conduct it?

Answer

It was agreed at a meeting of the Children's Services Improvement Board that, as part of a quality assurance framework, external scrutiny should take place on a regular basis. This will be every three years, in line with jurisdictions in the United Kingdom.

The Managing Director of Community and Social Services has had discussions about a bespoke independent scrutiny process with the Director of Inspection of a UK-based Inspectorate. Discussions are progressing in relation to the model and timescale of scrutiny activity. This is likely to commence in the latter part of 2017.

In addition, the establishment of the Jersey Health and Social Care Commission is progressing with the appointment of a Chair and Commissioners and the likelihood of the Commission assuming regulatory and inspection responsibilities in Q4 2017. A number of regulated children's services will come under the Commission's inspection remit.

Consultation on draft Regulations for care homes (including children's homes), care at home and adult day care is currently underway and work will shortly commence on developing care standards for use by the Commission.