

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY R.G. LE HÉRISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2009**

Question

“Would the Minister identify who initiates Serious Case Reviews and outline what the sources of information are that lead to the initiation of such Reviews?”

Answer

The Minister wishes to thank the Independent Chair of the Jersey Child Protection Committee for providing the information for this answer.

The response to Written Question 1240/5 (4915) details the relevant Terms of Reference of the Serious Case Review Sub-Committee of the Jersey Child Protection Committee (JCPC) which holds responsibility for Serious Case Reviews.

As indicated, a request for a Serious Case Review can arise ‘from any source’ and the Independent Chair of the JCPC has the final responsibility to decide upon the action to be taken on the recommendation of the Serious Case Review Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee has considered the need for a Serious Case Review on information from the local media, reports from the Police, Health and Social Services and a request from an Advocate acting on behalf of children in care proceedings.

In deciding whether to recommend a Serious Case Review, the Sub-Committee will generally make request for further information from all relevant agencies concerning the child(ren) and their family circumstances. This information will identify the level of contact and the work undertaken, and significant detail on the factors giving rise to the request for a Serious Case Review.