

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS
BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 9th DECEMBER 2014**

Question

Will the Minister:

- (a) advise how much police time has been spent during the period 2010 to 2013 dealing with:
 - (i) children who are absent from school without permission;
 - (ii) adults with mental health needs;
 - (iii) children with mental health needs;

- (b) outline the relationship of each class of persons with the Education, Sport and Culture Department and the Health and Social Services Department?

Answer

(a) (i) Police records indicate that they responded to two incidents of school absence. One in 2011 and one in 2013. School attendance is addressed direct by ESC School Attendance Officers.

(a) (ii) and (iii) States of Jersey Police IT systems do not record this level of detail. However, I can indicate that during this period, the States of Jersey Police have continued to attend an increase in 'welfare' calls from across communities, which would include a range of scenarios, including mental health. The number of welfare calls during the period from 2010 are as follows:-

2010 – 716
2011 – 663
2012 – 747
2013 – 926
2014 – 877 (first 10 months to end of October)

(b) It is not clear what the Deputy is asking. The States of Jersey Police work closely with the Education, Sport and Culture Department and the Health and Social Services Department whenever they encounter children who are absent from school without permission, adults with mental health needs or children with mental health needs.