WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER BY DEPUTY T.A. VALLOIS OF ST. SAVIOUR ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 21st JANUARY 2014

Question

Could the Chief Minister advise whether clear procedures are in place which permit appropriate exchange of information between himself, the Minister for Health and Social Services and members of the Children's Policy Group, and whether he has an obligation to ensure that his ministerial colleagues on that group are fully informed about cases under review, particularly where due process may not have been followed?

Answer

Information sharing protocols are in place between departments represented on the Children's Policy Group. Those protocols allow for the exchange of information where appropriate.

The role of Children's Policy Group is to deal with policy issues. It is not to investigate or review individual cases. Information about individual cases may be shared if it relates to a Serious Case Review or where a multi-agency response is required.

Each Minister retains his or her own statutory responsibilities as set out in law and there is no obligation to inform other members of the Children's Policy Group about cases which pertain solely to an individual department.