

**QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOME AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ON  
TUESDAY, 4th NOVEMBER 2003 BY DEPUTY R.G. LE HERISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR**

**Question**

- (a) Would the President indicate whether the Committee is intending to introduce a system of parole for those serving prison sentences at H.M. Prison and, if so, when?
- (b) Would the President indicate what issues, if any, need to be resolved before the introduction of such a system?

**Answer**

- (a) The Home Affairs Committee has agreed a programme of focus groups connected with the development of a criminal justice policy. The first focus group held in October 2003, concentrated on how offenders are dealt with and sought to identify specific issues for more detailed inspection. One of the issues identified was indeed the introduction of a parole system to Jersey. Until the implications have been properly assessed, I cannot say whether, or when, a system of parole could be introduced.
- (b) There will be a further focus group looking solely at parole. These groups have been so constructed that they draw, at present, on the relevant expertise available in the Island. The intention is that this group will identify the issues that would need to be resolved. Deputy Le Hérissier has himself much to offer on the subject and I would welcome his involvement in the focus group during these early and critical stages.