

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY L.M.C. DOUBLET OF ST. SAVIOUR
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER 2020**

Question

Further to the oral question without notice which I asked on 8th September 2020, will the Chief Minister confirm that ethnicity data is being collected with Covid-19 test swabs, and will he publish that data, where it is possible to do so without identifying individuals, as well as the related death rate and recovery rate?

Answer

Progress has been made in updating the Integrated Public Health Record (IPHR) to include a field to capture ethnicity. The categories in this field reflect other administrative systems across the Government of Jersey. The process to proactively collect this information as part of the IPHR has been introduced from September for both positive Covid-19 cases and direct contacts, which will then enable analysis of recovery and other outcomes going forward. For positive Covid-19 cases identified prior to this change in process, a retrospective data collection exercise is being considered, which would seek not only to capture ethnicity data but also more widely to collect valuable feedback on the experiences of individuals who have received a positive test result in Jersey. This work will be co-ordinated between Health and Community Services, Public Health and Environmental Health, as part of a wider study to understand the public health impacts of the pandemic in the Island. It is expected that the findings will be published, whilst ensuring that best practice principles are followed in order to protect identifiable patient information.