

Oral Question in the States Assembly – 21st November 2006

7.7 The Deputy of St. Martin of the Minister for Home Affairs regarding the establishment of a Police Consultative Group:

The States approved paragraph 3.2.1 of the Strategic Plan, which was to establish a police consultative group, either through separate primary legislation or a new Police Law by 2008. What steps has the Minister taken to address the matter? How has it been progressed and has a timetable been agreed to ensure the matter is addressed by 2008?

Senator W. Kinnard (The Minister for Home Affairs):

My department is currently considering the matter alongside a new Police Law and, as part of the research, we have examined the newly established arrangements for a Police Authority in Gibraltar, which has been drawn to our notice by H.M.I.C. (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary). The Assistant Minister has met the Chairman of the Gibraltar Police Authority to discuss the establishment and early experience of their arrangements. A meeting is arranged with the Law Draftsman's Department in early December when specific options will be discussed in detail, including an appropriate timetable to meet the Strategic Plan commitments.

7.7.1 The Deputy of St. Martin:

Is the Minister confident - as it is only 13 months away - that the Consultative Group will be up and running by 2008?

Senator W. Kinnard:

We are going to discuss the detailed timetable when we meet with the Law Draftsman. Obviously there are some law drafting commitments, but the Police Law itself, Sir, is very much virtually complete except for this small matter. I do not see at this stage any concern for any delay.