



Scrutiny Office

Connétable of St. Clement,  
Chairman, PPC  
Morier House  
St. Helier  
JE1 1DD

Our ref: 511/2/3

21 November 2017

Dear Chairman,

**Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel**

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chairman of the Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel. The Review Panel's purpose is to scrutinise the response from the Executive to the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry. The Panel is currently gathering information to help inform its work and would be grateful of your contribution.

The Panel would like to request an update on any work being undertaken (or planned to be undertaken) by the Privileges and Procedures Committee in respect of the recommendations put forward in the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry.

We would be grateful to receive a written submission in the first instance, however, if you would like to speak to the Panel in person please let our Scrutiny Officer know (details below) who can make the appropriate arrangements. The Panel would appreciate your response by Wednesday 29 November 2017.

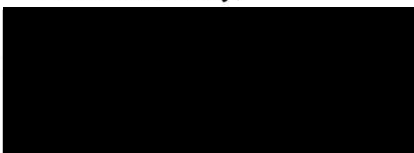
**Contact:**

**Letter:** F.A.O – Andy Harris, Scrutiny Office, Morier House, St Helier, JE1 1DD

**Email:** [a.harris5@gov.je](mailto:a.harris5@gov.je)

Please note that all written and oral submissions will be uploaded to the Scrutiny website ([www.scrutiny.je](http://www.scrutiny.je)) as a matter of course with the exception of any evidence received under a confidential or private agreement, which, in accordance with Jersey Data Protection legislation, will not be released into the public domain.

Yours sincerely,



Deputy S.Y. Mézec  
Chairman, Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel



## Privileges and Procedures Committee

Our ref: 1032(10)

Your ref: 511/2/3

Deputy S.Y. Mézec  
Chairman, Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel  
c/o Andy Harris  
Scrutiny Office  
Morier House  
St. Helier  
Jersey  
JE1 1DD

28th November 2017

Dear Chairman

### **Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel**

I am writing to update you on the progress that the Privileges and Procedures Committee ('PPC') has made in respect of those recommendations of the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry which specifically fall under its remit.

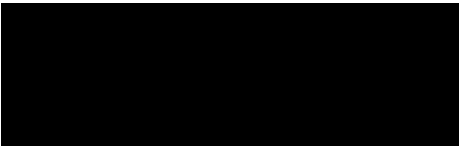
The inquiry recommended that "there should be mandatory briefing for all States Members as to their responsibilities as corporate parents for looked after children, and that new States Members would be unable to take their seat until this had been undertaken". We have agreed that the States Greffe, working with colleagues in the Department for Community and Constitutional Affairs, will organise a briefing session for States Members on corporate parenting responsibilities immediately after the election and we will offer more than one date, in order to ensure that all States Members can attend.

All Members will be expected to attend a briefing before they are sworn in before the Royal Court. This will meet the spirit of the Inquiry's recommendation, but there are significant difficulties in going further and mandating attendance before a Member can take their seat. It is possible to conceive of a situation where a Member refuses to attend a briefing because it is provided by the States, perhaps arguing that States staff should not be involved to avoid any connection with the events the Inquiry investigated. The Member may have promised to act in this way in their election manifesto. It would be contrary to the democratic process to deny such a Member the opportunity to take their seat. In our view, the approach we envisage will achieve the outcome envisaged by the Care Inquiry without causing any constitutional difficulties.

A further recommendation was that reference should be made to Members' corporate parenting responsibilities in the oath of office taken by States Members. PPC has appointed a sub-committee, comprising Deputy J.A. Martin of St. Helier as Chairman and Deputy S.M. Wickenden of St. Helier, to devise the appropriate wording for the duties of States Members, with a view to the relevant *projet* being approved by the States Assembly. I anticipate that this could be by Easter 2018.

I hope that this input is of assistance to the Panel.

Yours sincerely,



**Connétable L. Norman**  
**Chairman, Privileges and Procedures Committee**