

3.5 Deputy T.M. Pitman of St. Helier of the Minister for Home Affairs regarding claims of corruption made by former Senator S. Syvret:

Would the Minister inform Members whether the Chief Officer of the States of Jersey Police in response to allegations made to the police by former Senator Stuart Syvret relating to corruption, advised Mr. Syvret that his concerns had been referred to a local legal firm and they had been deemed groundless? If so, which legal firm was utilised and why?

Senator B.I. Le Marquand (The Minister for Home Affairs):

I am assuming that the matters to which Deputy Trevor Pitman refers relate to a complaint made by Mr. Syvret to the States of Jersey Police in May 2012. The allegations made by Mr. Syvret were not new and were both complex and numerous, totalling some 60 separate allegations. Inquiries and independent legal assessment by the Jersey law firm Carey Olsen concluded early this year when Mr. Syvret was advised in March 2013 by the Deputy Chief Officer of Police that there was no new evidence to support his assertions of criminality, the majority of matters having already been subject to earlier consideration, investigation and where appropriate, action. The independent legal assessment was sought by the police from Carey Olsen because that firm had previously been involved in advising in relation to similar complaints.

3.5.1 Deputy T.M. Pitman:

I thank the Minister for that and for revealing which firm it was. Could he just clarify, was the information, the decision as it was, put across to Mr. Syvret in writing or was it verbal? Does the Minister know if that can be verified in any way?

Senator B.I. Le Marquand:

There was a letter written by the Deputy Chief Officer of Police and that is what I have quoted in my answer.