

4.11 Deputy M.R. Higgins of the Minister for Home Affairs regarding the prospective publication of the response of the former Chief Officer of the States of Jersey Police to the ‘Wiltshire Report’: [1(494)]

Will the Minister explain why, if the suspension of the former Chief Officer of the States of Jersey Police, Mr. Graham Power, was a neutral act, her department never published his response to the Wiltshire Report; will she commit to publish Mr. Power’s response to that report; and if not, why not?

The Deputy of St. Peter (The Minister for Home Affairs):

As the Deputy knows, I was not the Minister for Home Affairs or even a Member of this Assembly at the time of Mr. Power’s suspension. As far as I am aware, the document being referred to was submitted by Mr. Power as part of his evidence to the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry. My understanding is that this information is, therefore, already in the public domain in an appropriately redacted form and available on the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry website.

4.11.1 Deputy M.R. Higgins:

As the Wiltshire Report was published by her predecessor, Senator Le Marquand, and is being used by people as justification for the suspension of Mr. Power, of which he has never properly had the opportunity to answer because no disciplinary proceedings ever took place because he retired beforehand, and there were delays that took, I think, something almost like 3 years before it came out, does the Minister not think that if it is on their website - I believe it still is, if you can trace it through the internet - that Mr. Power’s response should be put on the same site so the information can be seen, so that the States of Jersey are giving a balanced view of the whole of the affair of Wiltshire and Mr. Power and so on?

The Deputy of St. Peter:

I am sure other Members may have some sympathy for this situation and that these events took place a long time before I was Minister. It is not a matter that has been drawn to my attention until now and I have not, therefore, given it any consideration.

4.11.2 Deputy M.R. Higgins:

Let us follow through then, will the Minister now give consideration to doing it and advise the House what she will do at the next sitting?

The Deputy of St. Peter:

I am happy to give that consideration.