

Government of Jersey
Union Street | St Helier | Jersey | JE2 3DN

Deputy Catherine Curtis
Chair – Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel
By email

15 May 2025

Dear Chair

- **Status of the deployment of the body worn cameras in HMP La Moye including details about timeframe.**

Body worn cameras (BWC) have been purchased. Since then, the following steps have been taken to deploy the equipment:

- Digital Services have set up user profiles for all members of staff.
 - An RDFI reader is currently on order. This reader will allow cameras to be booked out to members of staff (allowing accountability of each device and evidence tracking).
 - The required data cable has been routed in the 'equipment area' within gate lodge (needed for auto update of video material to the cloud).
 - Awaiting installation of two computers dedicated to the system management.
 - A policy governing the use and deployment of the equipment is currently being drafted by the Use of Force coordinator.
 - A training package has been prepared and is ready to deliver to staff. This will be rolled out once equipment is ready for deployment.
 - Use of BWC has been incorporated in the Use of Force training since last year.
- **Can you confirm how many sex offenders moved to Jersey in 2024?**

During 2024, two individuals subject to Notification Orders in the UK moved to Jersey. One relocated to the community without informing their UK Offender Manager, breaching their Notification Order. They were arrested and bailed upon visiting the UK and have since returned to Jersey. The other individual, originally from Jersey, was convicted of sexual offences in the UK, served most of their sentence there, and was transferred back to Jersey towards the end of their sentence. They were released from custody in April 2025 and are currently managed by the Probation service under an agreement with the UK Probation service.

Both individuals are engaged with the Offender Management Unit (OMU) to ensure compliance with Notification requirements. The OMU has conducted visits to support the Probation team, and their involvement has not raised any concerns.

a) In relation to any sex offender who have moved to Jersey and require supervision by the Offender Management Unit. Is there a risk / concern that the Offender Management Unit is “blocked up” supervising non-Jersey sex offenders?

Based on the current information available, there is no indication that the Offender Management Unit (OMU) in Jersey is "blocked up" or overwhelmed. The unit is currently staffed by one Detective Sergeant (DS), four Detective Constables (DC), and a member of Police Staff, which is deemed sufficient for the current demand.

• Can you confirm if there is a formal process, or permission required, for sex offenders who want to move to live in Jersey? Please provide details if so.

For offenders subject to probation supervision or post custodial licence in the UK, the supervising Probation Service has to formally request a transfer of supervision to the Jersey Probation Service. This will only be considered by the Jersey Service if the offender has close ties with the island. A request for a ‘fresh start’, without previous close links to the island, would be refused by the Jersey Service as this would be outside the rules agreed with the Ministry of Justice. All cases considered for transfer would be subject to a risk assessment, including liaison with victim services, to ascertain whether any risk posed by the offender can be safely managed in Jersey.

Currently, for any offender who wishes to move to Jersey; for low or medium risk offenders, this is done on an informal basis by prior agreement between Police forces. The RSO will initially be visited by OMU and reminded of their Notification requirements to ensure compliance. For higher risk offenders, Article 15 and 16 of the Sex Offenders (Jersey) Law 2010 allows for an application to the Attorney General (via Royal Court) for those offenders to formally be made subject to Notification requirements in Jersey.

• Minister, can you outline what policies are in place for post-custodial supervision of registered sex offenders?

- The States of Jersey Police *Management of Sexual, Violent, Dangerous Offenders Policy* was updated last year, detailing the management process for Registered Sex Offenders (RSOs) from Section 5 onwards.
- Section 7.4 outlines the pre-release meeting process and subsequent regular unannounced home visits and risk assessments.
- Current work on developing post-custodial licences has identified that the Probation Service would take responsibility for supervising licences. The Service has been given the budget to employ two additional probation officers in the event of the legislation being passed as there will be a significant increase to workload. Supervisory standards would be in line with current probation standards.

• Are there sufficient communications between the prison and the police in instances of early or temporary release?

Communication is sufficient. Police regularly contribute to appropriate risk assessment prior to release and actively communicates with Prison supporting in the management of those

prisoners who have been released either on Conditional Early Release (CER) or Release on Temporary License (ROTL).

The Police Liaison Officer and Individual Parish Hall Centenier group are informed about CER and ROTL releases from prison. Licence conditions are also shared to ensure that compliance is monitored, and any breaches are identified and reported.

- **Have any concerns been highlighted to you regarding the Victim Notification Scheme? What mitigation measures have been put in place to ensure that this service runs without issue?**

The Probation and Prison Services are aware of one case in 2024 where inadequate information was provided to a victim in relation to a prisoner who was granted conditional early release. This **did not involve** a sex offender although the victim suffered emotional and physical harm. The Prison Governor and Chief Probation Officer met with the family to apologise. The case was unusual as it progressed quickly after a decision was made not to deport the prisoner – the prisoner had become eligible for early release some weeks prior to the decision being made. As a result of this oversight, the conditional early release process now involves the probation service having to address questions about the victim's views before the assessment can be passed to the early release panel.

Last year, a group of professionals from Police, Prison, Probation, and victim services came together to review and enhance the Victim Notification Scheme (VNS). This collaborative effort aimed to ensure the scheme not only met the needs of victims but also aligned to the Victim and Witness Charter.

Feedback was received and actively sought from victims and survivors who had previously engaged with the VNS, providing critical insights into their experiences. This input has enabled agencies to strengthen the scheme, ensuring consistent and informed pathways for managing prisoner releases, helping to improve the quality and responsiveness of victim communication and support.

Youth Justice Roadmap

1. **Minister, are you able to share with the Panel any updates on the progress of the Youth Justice Roadmap?**

As discussed in the Assembly at the last sitting, the Youth Justice Roadmap is now ready for publication, pending a few final changes following a meeting with the Children's Commissioner last month. I have **attached** a copy of this draft with the CRIA to this letter for your attention.

2. **Your letter of 13th March referenced adjustments being considered following feedback, could you detail what feedback was given and how it has been incorporated within the Roadmap?**

Ongoing discussions with stakeholders indicated that there were concerns that the roadmap was not representative of the challenges in the existing youth justice system.

There were a number of very specific actions for stakeholders which whilst well intentioned, had the risk of absorbing limited resourcing and not actually focusing on understanding and addressing the current challenges in the youth justice system. It was agreed that an approach would be taken which would enable stakeholders to come together to honestly identify and understand the end-to-end pathway of the youth justice system, identify the gaps and challenges and through this would then develop specific actions based upon understanding the needs.

Importantly, a comprehensive Children's Rights Impact Assessment has also been completed since January. The Youth Justice Roadmap has potential to impact on a child's rights therefore it was essential to assess and evidence how these rights have been considered—both directly and indirectly.

3. Minister, you also informed the Panel that there was only one part-time Officer supporting the Chief Officer in revising the strategy. Given the large scope of the review, do you believe it has been resourced appropriately?

To clarify, this is not a review but the development of a new Youth Justice Roadmap — a Government strategy that has been in development since 2019. However, as discussed with the Panel previously, it was only in the past year that a part-time officer, working under Building a Safer Community, took on the coordination of its final drafting.

That process has taken considerable time and effort, due both to the scale of the and the need to build consensus across agencies with differing priorities. We now have a clear and strategic Roadmap, which is a credit to the commitment of all the stakeholders involved.

A Youth Justice Partnership has already been created and one of the first actions within the Roadmap is to carry out an end-to-end review of the youth justice system — to fully understand what currently exists, where the gaps are, and what resourcing is needed to deliver effectively. That work still lies ahead, and it will be critical in shaping how we move from a roadmap on paper into delivery.

Given the scale and ambition of the Roadmap, I acknowledge that further resourcing would have been desirable. However, given current financial pressures we cannot allocate additional resourcing. We are committed to progressing this work using the existing capacity within the system and making the best use of this capacity through improved collaboration across Government and with partners.

The Roadmap gives us a clear direction — now we need to ensure it is delivered effectively, and that begins with fully understanding the system we're working within.

4. Minister, how do you see the Roadmap meeting the needs of Jersey's youth through Government's role as corporate parents?

As corporate parents, we have a collective and statutory responsibility to ensure that children and young people in our care — and those with care experience — are given the same opportunities, support, and aspiration we would want for our own children. The Roadmap is a key mechanism for fulfilling that responsibility.

It sets out a coordinated, cross-government approach that ensures services are not working in silos but are instead aligned around the needs of young people. This includes improving access to mental health services, education and employment opportunities, appropriate accommodation, and meaningful relationships with trusted adults.

The Roadmap also embeds the voices of children and young people in our decision-making processes, which is fundamental to effective corporate parenting. It ensures that their lived experiences shape the outputs from the roadmap and services that affect them.

From a governance perspective, the Roadmap includes clear accountability via BASC to the Ministerial Safeguarding Board to ensure progress is monitored and delivery is transparent. This provides us with the necessary scrutiny to ensure we are upholding our duty as corporate parents, not just in words, but in outcomes.

Ultimately, it's about embedding a culture of care, consistency, and ambition across Government — so that every young person, regardless of their start in life, has the support they need to thrive.

Road Safety

5. The Policing Plan 2025-2028 targets improving road safety as one of its key goals for keeping people safe. What is being done to ensure effective collaboration between the Police and other relevant parties in reaching this goal?

a) Who is responsible for long term strategies regarding road safety, and has budget been allocated specifically for these priorities?

The Minister for Infrastructure, Connétable Andy Jehan, is responsible for Road Safety. The strategic road safety team sits within Infrastructure and Environment and coordinate the Island's road safety strategy with partners including the States of Jersey Police.

6. Do you consider penalties for dangerous driving to be appropriate and fit for purpose, particularly where failing to report a serious incident?

a) If not, what would you hope to see changed?

There is legislation in place that enables the Police to investigate dangerous driving. The States of Jersey Police do not have a view on the penalties that the courts impose.

7. What discussion and cooperation is there between the Parishes and Police to ensure that medical assessments for driving are being appropriately monitored?

When the States of Jersey Police have concern for a driver's ability to continue driving due to age, physical or mental impairment they will liaise with the authority that issued the individual's driving license (i.e. the Parish). The appropriate authority can then arrange for an assessment to be made. Concern in relation to an individual's driving can come from a number of sources (members of the public reporting poor driving, Police vehicle stops, worried friends and family members, etc).

8. The recently published Alcohol Profile 2024 highlighted “a sustained and significant role of alcohol in impaired driving incidents in Jersey”, with a significant increase in alcohol-related road traffic collisions and hit-and-run incidents. What, if anything, is being done to address these increases?

The States of Jersey Police will continue to target individuals who drink and drive. There are specific campaigns conducted at times of the year that have been linked with an increase in drinking and driving. These campaigns involve increased publicity to raise awareness and increased road traffic checks. Throughout the year drink driving remains a standing topic at response team briefings with relevant intelligence being tasked to officers so that they can focus on vehicles and individuals who are suspected of drinking and driving.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. R. Helleger".

Deputy Mary Le Hegarat
Minister for Justice and Home Affairs