

26<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Deputy Helen Miles  
Parishes and Government Review Panel  
States Greffe  
Morier House  
St. Helier  
JE1 1DD

**By Email**

Dear Deputy Miles,

**Re: Parishes and Government Review Panel – Scope of Review**

Thank you for your letter dated 27th May 2025 regarding the Scrutiny Review Panel's examination of the relationship between the Parishes and the Government of Jersey. I appreciate the opportunity to contribute to this important review and would like to acknowledge the significance of the matters under consideration, particularly the roles of the Honorary Police and the process surrounding the issuance of Firearms Certificates.

The States of Jersey Police recognises the critical importance of ensuring effective collaboration between the Parishes and Government in delivering community services and maintaining public safety. We also fully appreciate the risks and responsibilities associated with the areas identified in your Terms of Reference, and we are committed to supporting the Panel's work in a constructive and transparent manner.

Please find enclosed our detailed responses to the questions outlined in Appendix 2 of your letter. These responses are structured to address each question in turn and are intended to provide clarity on our current practices, protocols, and areas where we believe improvements or further collaboration may be beneficial.

Should you require any further information or clarification, or if you would like to arrange a meeting to discuss any of the responses in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me. We also welcome the opportunity for Inspector David Turnbull to engage with the Panel regarding the work of the Community Policing Team.

Thank you once again for your letter and for the Panel's commitment to this important area of public service.



STATES OF JERSEY  
**POLICE**

Police Headquarters  
La Route du Fort  
St Helier, Jersey  
JE2 4HQ

Yours sincerely,

**Robin Smith**  
Chief Officer  
States of Jersey Police



## **Answers to questions outlined in Appendix 2**

### **Firearms Certificates**

#### **1. What is the role of the States of Jersey Police in the firearm certification process, and how do you work with the Connétables of the parishes?**

Under Article 8 the current legislation (Firearms (Jersey) Law 2000), the Chief Officer of the States of Jersey Police (SOJP) is responsible for maintaining an index known as the “Central Firearm Index” (CFI).

This is the only role required to be completed under the current legislation, however the CFI department carries out a significant number and range of additional administration roles on behalf of the Parishes in order to ensure the Connétables have all the relevant information required to make their decision for the issuing of a firearms certificate.

These include: -

- a. Full Police Vetting Checks - Police National Computer (PNC), Police National Database (PND), Local Convictions checks, including Parish Hall Sanction, Local Intelligence checks, Counter Terrorism (CT) Checks which include checks through the UK policing authorities.
- b. On receipt of the firearms application forms from the parish, which consists of the applicants form and 2 x referee form, CFI proof-reads all documents to ensure all relevant information (Applicant’s personal details, current address and the details of the firearms currently held) match that which is recorded on the CFI data base (VPGuns).
- c. For all new applications, a file is created on the VPGuns database using the information on the application form, this is then linked to the Police Viewpoint system.
- d. Any discrepancies are addressed with the parish administrators, who will contact the applicant to resolve any outstanding queries raised by the CFI department.
- e. CFI reviews the terms and conditions as set out by the Connétables for the use of the firearms to ensure they are compliant with the current legislation.
- f. CFI produces the firearms certificate which is then forwarded to the Parish for issue to the applicant.



- g. The parishes liaise with the CFI department on a daily basis requesting guidance and advice on all aspects of the Firearms (Jersey) Law and particularly the use of firearms by the said applicants.

**2. Do the States of Jersey Police conduct background checks or investigations on applicants before a firearm certificate is issued? If so, what criteria are used?**

The CFI department has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the parishes to carry out the relevant vetting checks (PNC, PND, CT, and Local checks) on all applicants and referees. These are required to be completed within 21 days of receipt. (Copy of MOU attached)

**3. How do you ensure that the firearm certification process is being conducted lawfully and in compliance with public safety standards?**

CFI proof-reads all documents prior to the production of the firearms certificate to ensure compliance with current legislation and that the application falls with-in the remit of Public Safety. Any discrepancies or issues in relation to Policy, Procedure or Law is discussed with the Connétable prior to the forwarding of the firearms certificate.

**4. Are there specific protocols in place for reviewing an applicant's criminal history or mental health background?**

All criminal convictions (including Spent convictions) Parish Hall Sanctions, and relevant intelligence is provided to the Connétable for their decision-making processes.

In relation to any mental health background, this is the remit of the parishes to review information provided on the application form under question 12 (Medical questioner). Under part E of the application form (Declaration) the applicant consents to the Parish to writing to the applicants General Practitioner for confirmation on the answers given by the applicant.

**5. What information do the States of Jersey Police provide to the Connétables to support their decision-making when issuing a firearm certificate?**

Full Vetting checks (as set out in question 1), and all relevant information held by SOJP is forwarded to the Connétable. The CFI department will give guidance as requested by the Connétables in relation to the firearms held, or being requested to acquire, and the use of the said firearms in the various shooting disciplines.

In 2019, the CFI department was requested by the Comité des Connétable to provide a "Guidance Document" to assist them in their decision making for all applications.

The CFI department compiled a comprehensive document which was submitted in March 2019 (Copy Attached).

This document was reviewed by the Comité des Connétables secretary and edited. Two complementary documents were distributed by the secretary.

Document 1 is available on the Comité des Connétables website for applicants to view:

Procedure for all Connétables to be used to determine an application for a Firearm Certificate (grant, renewal and variation) Approved by the Comité des Connétables - December 2020

Document 2 was submitted to the Comité des Connétables to assist them in determining an application:

Guidance for all Connétables to be used to determine an application for a Firearm Certificate (grant, renewal and variation) Policy Document – Approved - December 2019.

**6. Is there a formal procedure for the States of Jersey Police to assess the security of firearm storage once a certificate is issued?**

All security inspections are carried out by a representative of the Connétable i.e. Honorary Police Officers, Parishes employees, or in some cases another certificate holder assisting the parish.

On occasion, the CFI has been requested to assist and to provide guidance in relation to security of firearms, especially for larger collections being held.

There is no formal procedure for the inspection of security arrangements. Should SOJP receive information that requires police interaction, SOJP will assess storage arrangements to ensure public safety.

**7. How do the States of Jersey Police and the Connétables coordinate in the ongoing monitoring of firearm certificate holders (e.g. regular checks or spot inspections)?**

All ongoing monitoring of a certificate holder falls under the remit of the Connétable as the authorising authority. SOJP do not carry out any routine inspections unless information is received which would require immediate action to prevent any incident, crime or to protect public safety.

If information or intelligence is received by SOJP / CFI department in relation to concerns of a certificate holder, dependant on the detail of the information, and if no immediate action is required, then the Connétable will be informed and it is for the Connétable to consider what action is to be taken, i.e. Spot Inspection, request a interview with the certificate holder, amendment of condition etc.

**8. Are there any joint operations or information-sharing protocols in place to ensure that firearms are not being misused or illegally held?**

Under 3.6 of the MOU the CFI department is required to:-

*“Draw to the attention of the Connétables any material facts relating to a criminal or other activity which might affect an existing firearm certificate holder’s suitability to continue to hold a firearms certificate”.*

Information is shared on a regular basis with the Connétables in relation to all certificate holders.

In conjunction with the Comité des Connétable and the Attorney General there has been two “Firearms Amnesties” held in the last 10 years which has resulted in a number of firearms being surrendered.

**9. What happens if the States of Jersey Police receive information that a firearm certificate holder may be in breach of their conditions or laws? How do you coordinate with the Connétables to take action?**

The Connétable will be advised / updated either by phone, email or in person depending on the type of breach, offence being reported or urgency of the situation.

If the information received requires immediate action by SOJP, this would be instigated, and the Connétable updated at the earliest opportunity.

**10. How does communication flow between the Connétables and the States of Jersey Police when it comes to revoking, suspending, or refusing firearm certificates?**

Under Article 7A of the Firearms (Jersey) Law 2000 - The Connétable shall forward to the Chief Officer particulars of the revocation or partial revocation of a firearm certificate under Article 3 or 4 as soon as practicable after the certificate is revoked or partially revoked.

There is currently **NO PROVISION** in the Law to “suspend” a firearms certificate. Refusal of licences is usually communicated to the CFI department by the Parishes, as there is no requirement under the legislation to do so.

**11. Does the States of Jersey Police have a role in ensuring consistency and uniformity in the way firearm certificates are managed across different parishes?**

As per question 5 - the CFI department was requested in 2019 by the Comité des Connétable to provide a "Guidance Document" to assist them in their decision making for all applications. This was to assist the parishes to work in unison and ensure a consistent approach on all applications for firearms grants, renewal and variation.

**12. Are there any risk management strategies in place to ensure that firearms held under certificate do not pose a threat to public safety?**

The guidance document provided in 2019 covers all disciplines and provides substantial guidance as to risk mitigation for the general public, when deciding to Grant, Renew or Vary a licence.

**13. Are there any recent examples or case studies where the States of Jersey Police had to intervene in a firearm-related incident involving a certificate holder? What actions were taken?**

There have been incidents which have required SOJP to remove firearms from a certificate holder.

These are generally linked to mental health issues or crime related matters.

There have also been incidents of self-harm by licenced certificate holders, using their firearms on themselves. There has been two recorded over the last 10 years.

All such matters are managed in collaboration with the licensing authority i.e. The Parish.

**14. What safeguards are in place to prevent misuse or criminal activity by firearm certificate holders?**

All applicants are vetted by SOJP which includes any known intelligence held in Jersey and in the UK (PND). The current system in place (VPGuns) allows CFI department to review any activity in relation to a firearms certificate holder who has had any interaction with SOJP.

The system is known as a "Live" system, i.e. as soon a certificate holder's details are inputted into the Police Viewpoint system for any reason, the CFI department is electronically notified, allowing the firearms registrar to review the information and take any appropriate action that may be required to assist in preventing possible criminal activity, misuse of firearms or risk to the public.



**15. How does the States of Jersey Police ensure the safe storage and handling of firearms by certificate holders, especially in cases of people who may be considered at risk (e.g. mental health concerns)?**

The security of the firearm at any premise is the responsibility of the Connétable, SOJP are not responsible for the examination of security arrangements. CFI assists on occasion and in accordance with other priorities as requested. CFI uses the same criteria as the UK for the security of firearms and ammunition as set out in the "Firearms Security Handbook".

The guidance document provided 2019 gives detailed information in relation to safe storage of firearms and ammunition. This information is taken from "Firearms Security Handbook" Produced by the FELWG (Firearms & Explosive Licensing Working Group), the National Police Chiefs Council in England, Wales and Scotland and the British Shooting Sports Council.

The guidance document also gives guidance on how to establish the applicant's knowledge, experience and competence in using and handling firearms and ammunition. It recommends attending firearms handling course run by some of the "Approved Shooting Clubs" with-in the Island with qualified instructors for new applicants.

**16. Do the States of Jersey Police coordinate with other authorities (e.g. health services, social services) in ensuring that applicants are fit to hold a firearm certificate?**

SOJP will only contact other authorities if the applicants vetting check reveals that they had been treated or had been under the care of an external agency. This will be explored to ensure that all relevant information is provide the Connétable.

**17. What is the process for the public to report concerns about a firearm certificate holder, and how do the States of Jersey Police respond?**

Members of the public can report in person at the police station, on-line through the SOJP website, through Crime Stoppers or via the Parish Hall.

**18. Under what circumstances would the States of Jersey Police recommend the revocation or suspension of a firearm certificate issued by the Connétables?**

Article 37 of the Firearms (Jersey) Law 2000 deals with "Possession of firearms by person previously convicted of crime". Under this criteria, certain person are Prohibited from possessing firearms.

SOJP do not make formal recommendations for the revocation of a firearms certificate unless the matter at hand falls within the remit of article 37.





As stated earlier there is **NO** power to suspend a certificate under the current legislation. The Connétable can request the certificate holder to **“Voluntary Surrender”** their certificate for a period of time. The Connétable can also amend the terms and condition of the certificate holder to have the firearms and ammunition placed into safe keeping.

There are a number of circumstances that will instigate SOJP to produce a report to the Connétable i.e. Mental Health matters, repeated interaction with SOJP for Domestic Circumstances or Public Order Offences, Intelligence of Organized Crime Association, Illegal use of their Firearms (Breaching Condition), excessive use of alcohol, etc. The list is not exhaustive. Every case where SOJP has concerns will be accessed for risk and public safety on its own merits.

**19. How does the States of Jersey Police ensure that revoked or suspended certificates are effectively enforced and that firearms are recovered in a timely manner?**

The Connétable must inform SOJP of any revocation as soon as practicable after the revocation, this is set out in Article 7A (2) of the Firearms (Jersey) Law 2000.

Article 3 (5)(a) to (e) of the Firearms (Jersey) Law 2000 deals with grounds for Revocation of a firearms certificate and defines what process must be followed in administering the revocation.

Application for firearm certificates, grant, variation and revocation of firearm certificates: -

Article 3 (5)(a) to (e)

A firearm certificate may be revoked by the Connétable on any of the following grounds –

- (a) that the Connétable has reason to believe that the holder is of intemperate habits or unsound mind or is otherwise unfitted to be entrusted with a firearm.
- (b) that the Connétable has reason to believe that the holder can no longer be permitted to have the firearm or ammunition in his or her possession without danger to the public or to the peace.
- (c) if the Connétable is satisfied that the holder is prohibited by this Law from possessing a firearm.
- (d) if the Connétable is satisfied that the holder no longer has a good reason for having in the holder’s possession, or for purchasing or acquiring, the firearm or ammunition which he or she is authorized by the certificate to have in his or her possession or to purchase or acquire; or (e) if the holder fails to comply with a notice under paragraph (10).



Article 5 (1) to (5) covers the criteria to be observed when revoking a certificate.

Revocation of certificates – supplementary:

- (1) Where a firearm certificate is revoked under Article 3, the Connétable shall by notice in writing require the holder to surrender the certificate.
- (2) Where a certificate is partially revoked under Article 4 the Connétable shall by notice in writing require the holder to deliver up the certificate for the purpose of amending it.
- (3) If the holder of a certificate fails to comply with a notice under paragraph (1) or (2), within 21 days from the date of the notice the holder shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.
- (4) Where an appeal against a revocation or partial revocation is brought under Article 55–
  - a. this Article shall not apply to that revocation or partial revocation unless the appeal is abandoned or dismissed.
  - b. it shall apply with the substitution, for the reference to the date of the notice, of a reference to the date on which the appeal was abandoned or dismissed.
- (5) This Article shall not apply to a revocation of a certificate on any ground mentioned in Article 3(5)(a) to (d), if the Connétable serves a notice on the holder under Article 6 requiring the holder to surrender forthwith the holder's certificate and any firearms and ammunition in the holder's possession by virtue of the certificate.

**20. What steps are taken if a certificate holder's mental health, behaviour, or legal standing changes after their certificate is issued?**

Depending on the information received, will dictate what action is required, i.e. if there was an immediate threat requiring the removal of all firearms, SOJP would instigate the said removal and thereafter report to the Connétable.

If there was no immediate threat determined, then the information would be forwarded to the Connétable for the Parish to consider and take the appropriate action.

If the certificate holders legal standing changes due to Court conviction, then a court order would be in place for the removal of all firearms and ammunition, this would be for the parish to administer as the authority. However, SOJP would assist with any removal if requested by the Connétable.

**21. How does the States of Jersey Police promote responsible firearm ownership within the community?**

SOJP receives a range and large number of enquiries from firearms licence holders and members of the public in relation to possession of firearms. Many are directed to SOJP from the Parishes who are often seeking extra support and knowledge.



The CFI department, consisting of a single member of police staff, advises all “Approved Shooting Clubs” that they are willing to attend clubs Annual General Meeting, or at anytime through the year to give a presentation to certificate holders and newcomers to the sport on responsible firearms ownership.

The CFI department has also offered to give training to the staff that carry out the administration with-in the Parishes in order that the right guidance can be given to all applicants.

**22. Are there any public awareness campaigns or outreach programs designed to educate the public about the risks of firearm ownership and how to report potential issues?**

SOJP are not aware of any public awareness campaigns or outreach programs from the Parish authorities.

Some of the “Approved Shooting Clubs” run courses specific to firearms handling and the safe use and possession of the same.

Members of the public can report in person to the police station, on-line through the SOJP website, through Crime Stoppers or via the Parish Hall.

**23. How do the States of Jersey Police handle exceptional or high-risk cases, such as individuals with a history of violence or mental health issues, when they apply for a firearm certificate?**

Any application received and assessed as “High Risk” will result in a detailed report to the Connétable for consideration. CFI will offer assistance as required by the Connétable in such cases.

**24. In cases where there is public concern about a specific firearm certificate holder, what role do the States of Jersey Police play in addressing those concerns?**

Every case is risk assessed on its own merits. All information received is examined, and if immediate action is required i.e. removal of firearms to prevent any incident, SOJP will take immediate action.

If the concerns are such that immediate action is not required (no immediate threat), the information is forwarded to the Connétable, for the Parish to consider and to take the appropriate action as required.

## Honorary Police system

### 1. How do the States of Jersey Police and the Honorary Police collaborate on law enforcement activities?

States of Jersey Police work directly with the Honorary Police in a number of operational enforcement activities:

- Night time economy patrols (St Helier and St Brelade Honorary Police)
- Joint road checks with Driver and Vehicle Standards (2 per Parish each year)
- Impromptu road checks in response to issues raised to SoJP/Honorary Police
- Christmas drink drive campaign road checks
- Building a Safer Community education programme in secondary schools (St Helier)
- Support in the policing of events (i.e. Liberation Day, Battle of Flowers, etc)

There is also a monthly meeting between SoJP management and Chef Camara to ensure partnership working and identify any areas for improvement.

### 2. How do the two forces communicate and coordinate on community policing efforts, events, or public safety initiatives?

The Chief Officer meets with Chefs de Police Camara and Bougeard on a monthly basis.

On a strategic level the Community Policing Team meet frequently with the Comité des Chefs and Comité des Connétables. Between these events the CPT host an Operational Police meeting with Centenier Camara (St Peter) and Centenier Bougeard (St Brelade) to address operational matters and procurement.

At a tactical level the Community Policing Team Constables and Sergeants attend the Parish Hall regularly to listen to concerns that Parishioners have brought to both the Honorary Police and Parish authorities. CPT officers attend the monthly Honorary Police meetings (where invited). Issues and concerns raised are addressed either through direct action or through joint working with the Honorary Police/wider SoJP departments including initiatives such as Community Impact Days.

### 3. What type of training do Honorary Police officers receive from the States of Jersey Police, and how does it differ from the training of full-time officers?

Given SoJP are now training new recruits 'on-island' there is increasingly limited capacity to train Honorary Police colleagues. Equally, budget pressures inevitably mean SoJP must focus on it's staff in the absence of any external funding.

As a voluntary Service Honorary Police can opt to attend a Foundation Course over 5 modules:

Police Powers and Procedures / Public Order and General Police Offences / RTC / Drinking Driving/ Scenario Day. This foundation course is optional and not a requirement, the only formal test is if they wish to use the Roadside Breathalyser.

The Honorary Police officers can also opt to take part in a Radio Procedures course and a Statement Writing Course – again these are optional.

The Honorary Police officers receive very basic inputs around legislation and have a total of 28 hours of input, this is then consolidated into a Scenario Day where they can put their learning into practice and receive feedback – this again is not pass/fail but a development opportunity.

In comparison SOJP training is to a mandatory standard with the training and expected standards set on a par with the national standards for the role. As a separate jurisdiction we are not a Home Office approved force, we are not legislated to follow the College of Policing or National Policing Framework.

Despite this jurisdictional separation however SoJP adhere to be comparative or equal to the National College of Policing or other recognised national policing standards as best practice.

SoJP Officers failing to meet the required standards will be supported to meet the required standards within an agreed timeframe however repeated failure of key operational criteria will result in action plans (Performance improvement plans) and over time can result in dismissal under the police officer performance policy and procedures policy.

The present standard is that officers receive a minimum of an initial 600 hours of teaching both in classroom and scenario-based training at a national police training college.

Officers are then deployed to response where they are operationally tutored for 10 weeks with an experienced officer and have direct contact with supervisors. The officers are then front line for a 2-year period where they are monitored and supported by Learning and Development with a further 112 hours of classroom and scenario training halfway through this 2-year period to consolidate legislation and operational learning.

This initial training package is in the process of being localised with future SoJP initial training taking place on island and being bespoke to island needs.

**4. How do you ensure that Honorary Police officers are trained to the same standards as regular police officers?**

SoJP is not responsible for Honorary Police training and/or standards. As independent entities, each parish works to its own agenda and differing perspectives, SoJP can only recommend and offer limited training packages at the request and with the agreement of the parish trainers and parish managers.

The training package timeline and opportunities are limited to evening sessions and weekends as most Honorary Police officers are in full time employment. These limited

windows of training opportunity are set by the parish trainers and restricted by the availability of their own Honorary officers.

It is the sole responsibility of the parishes to manage their teams and ensure their officers are safe, legally compliant, equipped and trained for the role. As a voluntary service with no set initial training for the role, they have no mandatory obligation to attend any of the training offered.

Given the independent views of each parish regarding its requirement, SoJP has no ability to make any of the Honorary training mandatory. All training packages are recommended with no power to make any training a mandatory requirement for the role or ensure all Honorary police must attend or meet any of the key training criteria or standards.

As such, without an island wide framework and initial training package format (with appropriate funding) that identifies enforceable minimal standards for the role, SoJP cannot ensure the honorary police are trained to the same standards.

SoJP are in the position that we can only offer recommended annual training to the parishes without formal requirements or obligation to attend.

The training package offered to Honorary police is significantly shorter than the equivalent packages for States Police officers with no pass or fail criteria for the role. As such Honorary police are trained to a significantly lower standard than States Police officers given the training package comparisons outlined in the previous question (three).

Honorary officers are only trained to basic standard. This minimal standard of training is to offer and support a basic understanding of the role and public and legal expectations regarding procedures and use of force.

This training is offered by SOJP, subject to available training resources, to support the Honorary police at an early stage, with the scenario training aspect of this package placing them in situations or scenarios out of their comfort zone where feedback is offered to enhance their knowledge base safety and situational awareness.



Given the training is not pass or fail, any significant issues or learning outcomes and concerns identified will be highlighted to the parish lead to manage their onward development and risk assess their involvement in any future honorary police activities and duties.

To enable support and development Honorary Officers are encouraged to contact SOJP if they have any concerns regarding how to deal with operational situations, they may find themselves dealing with.

To be clear however, despite SOJP support it is not the responsibility of SOJP to manage the Honorary Police training structure or timelines which at present is the responsibility of the individual parishes.

The Honorary Police work under their own legislation and discipline code and their standards of training and professionalism as a whole fall under and supervision and responsibility of the Attorney General.

Any established risks due to a lack of attended training, training content or professional officer conduct fall within the responsibility of the AG to review and recommend solutions or documented acceptance of these risks.

**5. Are there regular refresher or continued training sessions for Honorary Police officers, and how do you support their ongoing professional development?**

No, this has been offered in the past however uptake in general is not good as it is not a requirement, due to officers being voluntary, they often give up their own time / take days off to commit to this training.

As highlighted above, SoJP budget challenges will inevitably impact on the training provided.

**6. Does the States of Jersey Police support the Honorary Police in terms of access to resources, equipment, and knowledge?**

Yes. There is a continuous dialogue between SoJP and the Honorary Police. When new equipment is identified and intended to be procured by SoJP the Honorary Police are notified through the regular meetings above of the potential benefits. The Honorary Police have direct contact with SoJP facilities management and information security.

Knowledge is shared through the above meetings and in addition to this the Force Intelligence Bureau share a briefing with the Honorary Police. There is a standing invite for the Honorary Police to attend nighttime economy briefings on Friday/Saturday.



**7. Do Honorary Police officers have access to the same systems, databases, and tools as regular officers when performing their duties?**

With regard to the officers, they do not have access to Police Systems, they can ask for the information on the radio, or their Centeniers who have all been vetted and have access to the SOJP systems on a restricted basis.

When considering equipment and appointment used by Honorary and police staff, SOJP staff carry PAVA, Asp baton, handcuffs and if trained taser.

Honorary staff carry handcuffs and some carry Asp however it is at the discretion of the officer themselves.

Due to the level of PPST training, the Parishes can opt for what equipment they carry, they are trained by an experienced trainer however this is not managed by SOJP and is independent.

Currently SOJP have followed college of policing guidelines in relation to PPST (Public and Personal Safety training) to confirm their operational competence with regard to their fitness for the role (Job Related fitness test) and their operational competence to utilise their appointments and use of force. (Pava, Baton & handcuffs, tactical communication and physical restraint techniques)

The initial SOJP package for training probationer officers is thirteen days comprising of a week's first aid training and 8 days of PPST (Handcuffing and use of force training) which is a pass or fail package.

After completing this initial training officers must attend an annual two-day refresher package to prove fitness for role and operational competence to use their appointments. If officers fail to their fitness or operational competence, then consideration is given to removing them from front line roles until this has been achieved.

The Honorary Police training consists of two separate single days on a weekend taught by an external trainer. The officers are not taught or deployed with PAVA or ASP Batons and this is primarily handcuffing and tactical communication training.

This bespoke training package is taught by an external trainer not linked to SOJP. Given the recent update of the college of policing training package this package is not compliant with college of policing guidelines. As such would not meet the expected SOJP standard to deploy with or utilise handcuffs for operational policing.

The current disparity between the standards of up to date/ college approved training has highlighted concerns regarding operational use of equipment in dynamic or violent circumstances that Honorary police may encounter as well as liability issues if any



subsequent civil litigation and scrutiny were to follow an injury or other incident relating to the use of equipment and training provided to honorary staff.

**8. Are the actions of Honorary Police officers monitored or supervised by the States of Jersey Police to ensure they are complying with legal and professional standards?**

The Honorary Police are guided by a professional Code of Conduct in Police (Honorary Police Complaints and Discipline Procedure) (Jersey) Regulations 2000.

The Attorney General may direct the complaint to be resolved by the Connétable informally or refer the complaint to the Chief Officer for SoJP to conduct investigation.

Separate to criminal/professional standards investigations by SoJP, the Attorney General supervises the disciplinary hearings procedure.

**9. Do you believe the current Honorary Police system is sustainable, and if not, what changes or improvements do you think are necessary?**

The Honorary Police greatest strength is 12 independent parishes but it's greatest weakness too. Some funding for bigger projects (e.g. technology) should come from GoJ. The Honorary Police make a huge contribution to island life and save the GoJ Multiple £m's of pounds every year particularly in policing events. It is SoJP's view they are a vital asset to the island.

The key factor in sustainability of the Honorary Police is likely to be recruitment. 2024 statistics suggested the Honorary police were operating with 250 volunteers when they believe 320 are required. SoJP support the Honorary Police by recommending applications on social media, at careers fayres and at community events.

Another key factor for sustainability is collaboration. Some Parishes have a greater exposure to crime and anti-social behaviour and traffic enforcement. Some gain exposure through the Article 5A agreements allowing Honorary officers to support neighbouring Parishes when responding to incidents. Two Parishes have not agreed to the Article 5A. A joint approach would lead to greater consistency, more collaboration between Parishes and SoJP.

Sustainability will also require innovation. Whether this be in streamlining justice outcomes through restorative justice, implementation of youth out of court disposal frameworks which have been successful in other jurisdictions, the use of technology and artificial intelligence in charging and criminal justice procedures.

**10. Are there any areas of policing where the Honorary Police could play a more active or enhanced role in collaboration with the States of Jersey Police?**



As volunteers this question is likely better answered by the Honorary Police to inform SoJP what they would like to give their time to in working with SoJP to enhance exposure to law enforcement activities and skillsets.

**11. What additional support or resources do you believe the States of Jersey Police could offer the Honorary Police to help them fulfil their duties more effectively?**

As volunteers this question is likely better answered by the Honorary Police to inform SoJP what additional support the Honorary Police would like from SoJP to enhance their effectiveness.

**12. How do the States of Jersey Police perceive the role of the Honorary Police in community policing and maintaining public safety?**

The Honorary Police are considered a highly valuable resource by SoJP. They are our closest colleagues and partners.

- They are a source of intelligence for SoJP for community concerns
- They provide support at cordons, releasing SoJP officers to conduct investigations
- They provide support to many different events throughout the calendar
- They support SoJP with low-risk checks for licensing and early prison releases
- They provide a key role in the prevention and detection of road traffic enforcement
- In the Parishes where patrols are conducted regularly they provide a visible deterrent to crime and ASB
- Parish Halls provide an option for disposal of offences out of Court streamlining justice

**13. How are the costs for resources such as uniforms, equipment, vehicles, and technology for the Honorary Police managed? Does the States of Jersey Police contribute to these costs, or is it solely the responsibility of the parishes?**

SOJP source and provide uniforms/some equipment to the Honorary Police, which they pay for. Vehicles are funded out of the Parish Hall revenue streams, but they utilise the SOJP framework to acquire the vehicles, which offers them a substantial discount.

**14. Do the States of Jersey Police provide funding or grants to individual parishes to help support the Honorary Police?**

No. The Honorary Police are self-sufficient in terms of their funding and can access funding via their Parish Hall revenue streams in the form of road traffic enforcement. With current budgetary constraints and a reduced headcount, similar to 2018/2019 levels, SoJP does not have the funding to support the Honorary Police.

**15. Is there a standard budget or financial contribution allocated by the States of Jersey Police to the Honorary Police, or is it managed independently by each parish?**

No, this is managed independently by each parish. SoJP is not responsible for the Honorary Police.

**16. Who finances the training programs for Honorary Police officers? Does the States of Jersey Police provide funding for their training, or is this entirely handled by the parishes?**

The Honorary Police are charged a set rate for the Foundation Course and other courses; this is then sent to the Committee and dependant on those officers attended the overall cost is split between the parishes who have attended. The training fee is minimal but will be subject to a review as Learning and Development seek to update all their fees and revenue streams to ensure they reflect rising ancillary costs.

**17. Does the States of Jersey Police provide any resources or equipment to the Honorary Police, such as access to police databases, communications systems, or vehicles?**

Yes. Honorary Police officers with the appropriate level of vetting are provided limited access to SoJP systems in agreement with the Head of Information Security. They have access to police radios with a set channel for Honorary Police communications which is monitored in the Emergency Services Control Centre. Whilst police vehicles are procured by the Honorary Police themselves, this is achieved with the support of SoJP facilities team.

Uniform is also provided by SoJP with cost recovery from each parish.

**18. Given the voluntary nature of the Honorary Police, how does the States of Jersey Police view the long-term financial sustainability of the system? Should there be more financial support from the States to ensure its sustainability?**

The Attorney General (AG) is responsible for the Honorary Police and funding routes are commissioned through him. This question should be referred to the AG to ascertain the long-term financial sustainability of the system as this is not something the SOJP is sighted on.

The Honorary Police are a valued partnership by SoJP but given the significant budgetary constraints that SOJP are currently facing, there would certainly be increased demand and a further cost pressure on SOJP should the services of the Honorary Police be unavailable, or significantly reduced, in the future.

**19. Does the States of Jersey Police see any financial or operational challenges arising from the reliance on volunteer officers, and how can these challenges be addressed?**

The Honorary Police provide invaluable assistance to the SOJP in terms of helping with policing public events, traffic management in Road Traffic Collisions and contributing to the Road Safety Strategy to name but a few of their activities to support SOJP.

The current headcount for SOJP has almost returned to the 2018/2019 levels due to the year-on-year government efficiency savings. As highlighted above, there would certainly be increased demand and further cost pressures on SOJP should the services of the Honorary Police be unavailable, or significantly reduced, in the future.

**20. Do the States of Jersey Police believe that additional financial support from the central government might help improve the effectiveness and sustainability of the Honorary Police system, particularly in terms of resources and training?**

This is a question that should be referred to the Attorney General as the performance and sustainability of the Honorary Police is managed by the AGs office.

**21. How is the financial oversight of the Honorary Police system handled, particularly in relation to the allocation of funds for their equipment, training, and operational costs?**

The Parish manages their training needs in conjunction with SOJP Learning and Development, and they are then invoiced for any training delivered.

In terms of uniform and equipment costs, they complete a requisition order for these items and then SOJP invoice them.

**22. How are budget decisions for the Honorary Police made within the parishes, and does the States of Jersey Police have any involvement or input in this process?**

To be referred to the Attorney General's Department as the SoJP does not have any involvement in this.

**23. Is there a mechanism for the States of Jersey Police to coordinate with the parishes on the financial needs of the Honorary Police, such as anticipating future equipment upgrades or training needs?**

SoJP become aware of new training needs when they are available from the College of Policing. SoJP training packages are updated wherever necessary to comply with national best practice set out by the College of Policing. SoJP notify the Honorary Police through the meetings above and direct contact with the facilities team of innovations in equipment.



**24. Does the States of Jersey Police have any role in advocating for the allocation of additional funds to support the Honorary Police, particularly if there are budget constraints at the parish level?**

No, SoJP are not involved in fund allocation. The Chief Officer regularly speaks to Chefs de Police Camara and Bougeard regarding funding and how they might secure suitable funding given the contribution they make to the island. The Chief Officer has also discussed the Honorary Police with the AG.