

**REPLY BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE
TO QUESTIONS ASKED PURSUANT TO RULE 14 OF THE
RULES OF PROCEDURE BY DEPUTY LESTER QUERIPEL**

In 2015, a review of the implementation of the Children Law 2008, was undertaken here in the Bailiwick by Professor Kathleen Marshall, on behalf of the Scrutiny committee. In her report, which was published in November 2015, Professor Marshall made 21 recommendations that she felt could be pursued by the States. With that very much in mind, I ask that you please provide me with answers to the Rule 14 questions laid out below.

Question

1. *A) What has your department done so far to pursue Professor Marshall's recommendations?*
- B) What is your department currently doing to pursue those recommendations?*
- C) What will your department be doing in the future to pursue those recommendations?*

Answer

The Marshall Report gave very clear recommendations, none of which is the direct responsibility of the Policy & Resources Committee to implement. The recommendations are most relevant to the Committee for Health & Social Care, and I know that the latter's response to your Rule 14 question will address progress to date in some detail. Notwithstanding that, one of the Policy & Resources Committee's primary roles is to promote and facilitate cross-committee working. In this role the Committee has made it clear to the relevant Committees and Services that it is happy to provide support and assistance where needed. One avenue for support is through the Children's Executive, the governance body set up to monitor delivery of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP), who have a part to play in overseeing the implementation of these recommendations. The Children's Executive has invited officers from the Scrutiny Management Committee to update the group on progress against the recommendations. Representatives of the Committee are due to attend a meeting of the Executive to be held for that purpose on 6 February 2017.

Question

2. *Will the President of your department (or another political representative of your department in the President's absence) be making regular statements during future States debates, that update the States Assembly on the progress your department has made, in pursuit of the recommendations?*

Answer

The President and Members of the Policy & Resources Committee do not intend to provide such updates to the Assembly, as this would be inappropriate, given that the

Committee has no responsibility for implementing the recommendations. It would be a matter for the Committees with responsibility for implementing the recommendations to consider whether they wish to provide regular updates and, if so, in what format.

Question

3. *If the answer to question 2 is 'yes', then please can you tell me when the first statement will be made and also the dates for subsequent statements in future years, throughout the term of the current Assembly?*

Answer

Not applicable.

Question

4. *If the answer to question 2 is 'no', then please can you tell me how you will be keeping the Assembly informed regarding your departments attempts to pursue the recommendations?*

Answer

Not applicable.

Question

5. *Will your department also be providing the media with similar statements and updates, so they may in turn, broadcast and publish them for the benefit of the general public?*

Answer

The Office of the Policy & Resources Committee ensures that all statements and publications made by members of the Policy & Resources Committee to the States Assembly are made public through the States' official website and circulated to the local media.

Date of receipt of the question: 15th December 2016

Date of reply: 30th December 2016