**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS**
**BY DEPUTY C.S. ALVES OF ST. HELIER CENTRAL**
**QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2026**
**ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2026**

## Question

"Will the Minister advise –

(a) for each year since 2021, the number of referrals, reports or recorded offences relating to human trafficking, modern slavery or child exploitation involving persons recorded as travelling to or from Jersey within the Common Travel Area, broken down by jurisdiction, exploitation type and whether the individual was under 18, with figures given in bands where necessary to protect the identity of individuals;

(b) whether any risk assessment, policy or procedure exists concerning trafficking or child exploitation linked to private vessels arriving from within the Common Travel Area and, if not, whether one will be undertaken;

(c) what procedures exist for verifying the identity of, and relationship between, children and accompanying adults travelling within the Common Travel Area, including on inter-Island air and sea services; and

(d) whether Jersey has any memoranda of understanding or information-sharing agreements relating to trafficking or child exploitation with law enforcement or border agencies in other Common Travel Area jurisdictions, including the other Crown Dependencies, and, if not, whether such agreements are being considered as part of the development of modern slavery legislation?"

## Answer

a) Whilst a number of safeguarding-related incidents have been recorded by the Jersey Customs and Immigration Service (JCIS) since 1 January 2021 from interactions with passengers at the borders, none of these relate directly to offences involving human trafficking, modern slavery, or child exploitation.

Where an indicator of, or a concern relating to, human trafficking, modern slavery, or child exploitation, is identified, the relevant information is shared with other agencies as appropriate, and as per policy.

JCIS have dealt with cases after entry where concerns around mistreatment have been identified by Officers. In all instances, JCIS will always take necessary steps to deal with the individual circumstance. Different processes which are followed range from the submission of intelligence which can then be disseminated to relevant partner agencies or stakeholders, through to investigation and prosecution under Immigration legislation.

States of Jersey Police (SoJP) view modern slavery, human trafficking and child exploitation as serious and organised criminality, relevant information and intelligence is prioritised to mitigate threat, harm and risk.

Since 2021 SoJP have received and developed information relating to at least 3 reports of modern slavery and human trafficking in Jersey. Whilst none resulted in a crime being recorded, the safeguarding of involved parties and potential victims was prioritised on all occasions.

All three reports related to individuals over the age of 18, and related to concerns around potential trafficking from England. All individuals were referred through safeguarding pathways.

Since 2021 SoJP have investigated at least three child exploitation cases relevant to this question. They involved either offenders or victims travelling between Jersey and England.

b) There is no specific risk assessment, policy or procedure relating solely to trafficking or child exploitation linked to private vessels arriving in Jersey from within the Common Travel Area (CTA).

The CTA arrangements provide for the free movement of people between the United Kingdom, Ireland, and the Crown Dependencies. Consequently, there is no legal requirement for routine immigration control of persons arriving in Jersey from elsewhere within the CTA.

As an island jurisdiction with an extensive coastline and numerous potential landing points, it is neither practical nor possible to monitor and control every private vessel entering Jersey waters. Accordingly, JCIS will undertake checks and questioning in respect of customs matters on a risk-based basis, using available intelligence, operational information and safeguarding indicators to identify any movements of vessels which are deemed to be high risk. Identity checks will form part of this questioning, and action will be taken should there be any concerns in respect of trafficking or child exploitation.

All vessels arriving at Jersey harbours are required to notify Ports of Jersey in advance of their arrival.

While there is no separate policy directed specifically at private vessels arriving from within the CTA, safeguarding vulnerable persons and identifying potential victims of trafficking or child exploitation remains an integral part of JCIS's wider border security and law enforcement functions. JCIS keeps its operational procedures under regular review and will continue to assess emerging risks and adapt its approach where necessary.

c) As there is no legal requirement for routine immigration controls on travel between Jersey, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Guernsey and the Isle of Man, there are no statutory identity checks undertaken by JCIS.

Carriers are responsible for verifying the identity of passengers for the purposes of travel in accordance with their own operating procedures and conditions of carriage. Passengers travelling by air or sea are generally required to produce photographic identification, although the form of identification accepted may vary between operators.

JCIS will however uphold the protection of our borders and those travelling to and from the island, and will always seek to ensure that arriving passengers are doing so legitimately. Establishing identity on arrival is a priority, and JCIS have specific policies in respect of the safeguarding of children, which includes the verification of identification and relationship between adults and minors. The island’s agencies work together to ensure that children are

protected through fora such as the Safeguarding Partnership Board and the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub, and in addition, JCIS works closely with both the States of Jersey Police and Ports of Jersey to identify and respond to safeguarding risks at the borders. Officers are trained to recognise indicators of vulnerability and exploitation and will take appropriate action where concerns are identified.

d) Jersey has established information-sharing arrangements and data-sharing agreements with relevant law enforcement, border security and safeguarding partners as a matter of routine operational practice. These arrangements support the exchange of intelligence and information relating to a wide range of threats which include human trafficking, modern slavery, child exploitation and other forms of serious and organised crime.

   Effective intelligence sharing is a critical component of Jersey's risk based approach to border security. Information received from partner agencies, both within Jersey and across Common Travel Area jurisdictions, including the other Crown Dependencies, is reviewed and assessed alongside other intelligence and operational information to identify potential risks and inform appropriate action.

   SoJP already share and receive information and intelligence through a range of established systems and channels, supported by liaison with law enforcement and safeguarding partners. These arrangements support the investigation of human trafficking, modern slavery and child exploitation across jurisdictions, and help identify and safeguard children and vulnerable adults. Information is exchanged securely and in accordance with applicable legislative and data protection requirements.