

Chief Minister's Preface

This preliminary report was produced at the direction of my predecessor, former Senator John Le Fondré, to inform a decision as to whether or not a further inquiry would be merited. Having considered the preliminary report, and on the recommendation of Sir David Calvert-Smith QC, I have decided not to proceed to a full inquiry. In the interests of transparency and accountability, I am publishing this preliminary report, along with correspondence.

I do not feel that a further inquiry would be a proportionate use of taxpayer's money, nor do I feel that such an inquiry would realise sufficient further public benefit. Our central priority is to ensure Jersey has a world-class search and rescue community, which ensures we meet our international obligations as a coastal state and keeps Islanders safe in our waters. Ports of Jersey, as the appointed Harbour Authority, is legally responsible for search and rescue in Jersey territorial waters. Under the terms of its MoU with the Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture, it is required to discharge that responsibility in accordance with international maritime law and established maritime procedures in relation to search and rescue at sea.

What can be concluded, from this report, is that there is clearly mutual benefit in ensuring that the Government of Jersey and Arm's Length Organisations, more generally, work together to consider the areas for improvement which have been highlighted. During the election period, I made clear that trust and accountability would form a central part of any administration I led. It is my intention to deliver on this approach during my term as Chief Minister

**Deputy Kristina Moore
Chief Minister**