From:

Sent:

To: Cc:

Subject:

19 March 2018 10:36

Sir Philip Bailhache (Senator)

QVVOIN on Russia [Official]

Official.

Sir Philip,

Please see below the lines have been used by central communications/ CMD in response to questions on Russia. We have developed these to address questions you may receive in QWON.

Is the Minister/Ministry of External Relations monitoring the situation and in communication with the UK government about the situation and/or possible action that may need to be taken?

The Ministry for External Relations routinely monitor national and international issues that could conceivably have an impact on Jersey and, whenever it is necessary for us to take action, we do so. What we will not be doing, however, is commenting on UK foreign policy or speculating on the outcome of ongoing political discussions. In terms of the regulation and oversight that applies to businesses in Jersey and to those individuals who may wish to relocate here, we are satisfied that our protocols and procedures are of a very high standard.

What links does the Government of Jersey have with Russia? What is the Government of Jersey's response to the recent events in relation to the poisoning of Mr Skripal and his daughter in Salisbury last week?

As part of its remit to manage Jersey's external relationships, and raise the Island's positive international identity and external influence, the Ministry for External Relations maintains a programme of engagement with all members of the diplomatic community in London, including the Russian Embassy.

We will continue to monitor developments in relation to the ongoing Skripal case.

In light of the poisoning of Mr Skripal and his daughter in Salisbury, do we require more stringent reviews of those Russian nationals who are applying for high-value residency in Jersey?

Our systems of regulation and oversight are already very robust, and we have rigorous processes in place for vetting each and every application to relocate to Jersey under our high-value residency regime.

Is Jersey prepared to take action if necessary should the UK or EU impose further sanctions against Russia?

Jersey implements all UN and EU sanctions, which include the EU measures against Russia. At present, no new sanctions have been introduced in respect of Russia and I don't think it is helpful to speculate on this. However, any new measures would be implemented in Jersey as a matter of course.

Kind regards