# Independent Advisory Panel – Citizens' Jury on Assisted Dying



# <u>Independent Advisory Panel meeting minutes</u> <u>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020, 14:00-16:00</u>

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#### Present:

Panel Members Involve Government of Jersey

Gillian Arthur, MBE Lizzie Adams Anna Hamon

Dr Helen Miles Tim Hughes Ruth Johnson

James Le Feuvre

Michael De La Haye, OBE

## Agenda

- 1. Outline of a Citizens' Jury
- 2. Introduction to the area of assisted dying
- 3. Roles & responsibilities of the Advisory Panel
- 4. Panel Questions
- 5. Actions & Decisions
- 6. AOB

## 1. Outline of a Citizens' Jury followed

- An outline of a Citizens Jury was presented.
- It was noted that the process uses supported facilitation to support Jury members to decide on recommendations; and the content of the final recommendations is in the hands of the jury members.

Involve provided an outline of this method of deliberative democracy. It was noted:

- The process by which the participants were to be selected a random sample of invitations to be sent out to Jersey addresses, so everyone has an equal chance to take part using the process of Sortition
- That there would be 18-24 Jury members for this process.

• The importance of a demographically representative sample of members on the jury.

# 2. <u>Introduction to the area of assisted dying followed</u>

- An overview of the key considerations relating to the topic of Assisted Dying was presented. This included consideration of:
  - o Terminology and language used around the issue of assisted dying
  - Consideration of experiences in other jurisdictions who have & have not legalised assisted dying
  - o Safeguards and regulation considerations
  - o Balancing legal views, medical views and community views
  - Consideration of ethical and moral dimensions

# 3. Roles and responsibilities – overview of process

• An overview of key roles and responsibilities for the project were presented. [See appendix 1]

#### 4. Panel Questions

- A Q+A session took place amongst the panel regarding the Jury process.
- 5. Key actions and decision summary

#### Decisions and actions:

- Panel members approved the key question for the Jury:
  - o Should assisted dying be permitted in Jersey, and if so, under what circumstances?
- The panel considered changes to the Terms of Reference:
  - o Changes re removal of reference to a 'Chair' were confirmed.
  - o The Panel noted that to review the progress of the process, another 1-2 meetings may be added in addition to the scheduled 3-4 in the existing Terms of Reference.
  - o It was confirmed for the final Terms of Reference to be brought to the next meeting.
- The Panel members agreed to making their names and the panel's Terms of Reference public via Gov.je
- The Agenda for the next meeting was agreed, and the panel members agreed to email any agenda item suggestions in the interim.

#### Recommendations:

- The panel agreed on the importance of publicly articulating the steps of the Citizens' Jury process, and what will happen with the final report.
- The panel noted that the issue of mental health should be adequately covered/explored in the sessions.
- The panel discussed that whilst 'lived experience' should be covered, 'nation experience' is also vital (i.e. countries that have introduced Assisted Dying their experiences, the benefits and drawbacks).

- 6. <u>AOB</u>
- N/A

## Appendix 1

[Note this diagram is the latest version, which was updated after the Panel meeting on 24.11.20 to reflect updates to the roles and oversight involved in the citizens' jury process]

