



House of Keys  
Legislative Buildings  
Douglas  
Isle of Man  
IM1 3PW  
British Isles

Y Chiare as Feed  
Oikyn Slattyssagh  
Doolish  
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6th July 2020

Ms Julie Edge MHK  
Chair, Social Affairs Policy Review Committee.

Dear Julie,

In May 2019 the Abortion Reform Bill came into operation on our island and services became available for women to receive advice, counselling and abortion services on the island as well as the option for referral to the UK under the auspices of our NHS.

We are now twelve months on, and the Public Health department should be publishing their first annual report in the near future. After discussion with Minister Ashford, and with his support, I feel that now would be an opportune time for the Social Affairs Policy Review Committee to look at how services have developed on the island. The recent health emergency and necessary restrictions have highlighted the need for flexible and responsive healthcare provision and I believe your committee would be ideally placed to ask for feedback and look at the experience of women who have used the service.

Our legislation includes provisions for further development of a nurse led service and the involvement of pharmacists. As the Department for Health and Social Care continues the transformation process, the strategy to look at women's reproductive health in a more holistic way by linking the current Family Planning, abortion services and Genito-Urinary Medicine provision has become more important.

I have always felt that post-legislative scrutiny is an important aspect of what we do in Tynwald, and would value your committee's involvement in ensuring that these important healthcare services for women are provided in the best way possible for those who require them whilst also being able to develop further in the future.

Yours sincerely

Dr Alex Allinson MHK  
Member of the House of Keys for Ramsey