

Chief Inspector's Report July 2026

Purpose

This report provides an update on significant external developments, regulatory intelligence, Commission activities, policy work, stakeholder engagement and preparations for the expansion of the Commission's regulatory remit.

1. Government of Jersey Update

Formation of New Council of Ministers

The States Assembly has approved all ministerial nominations proposed by Chief Minister Lyndon Farnham, completing the formation of Jersey's new Government.

Chief Minister's Priorities

In addressing the Assembly, the Chief Minister emphasised that ministers had been entrusted with a significant responsibility and should focus on delivering meaningful outcomes rather than celebrating appointments. He stated that the public would judge the Government on the impact it delivers over the next four years.

Economic Priorities

Senator Voisin highlighted economic growth as a key priority, noting that Jersey has experienced limited economic growth since 2000 and that average real earnings have remained broadly unchanged since 2001.

Council of Ministers

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health and Social Services – Senator Tom Binet• Justice and Home Affairs – Senator Helen Miles• External Relations – Senator Ian Gorst• Education and Lifelong Learning – Deputy Catherine Curtis• Children and Families – Constable Richard Vibert• Environment – Senator Mary Le Hegarat | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing – Deputy Malcolm Ferey• Infrastructure – Deputy Jonathan Renouf• International Development – Deputy Carolyn Labey• Social Security – Senator Elaine Millar• Sustainable Economic Development – Senator Gerald Voisin• Treasury and Resources – Senator Alan Maclean |
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New Planning and Regulation Ministry

A new Planning and Regulation Ministry, led by Senator, Sir Mark Boleat, has been established. This Ministry will become the Ministerial Office responsible for oversight of the Jersey Care Commission. The Ministry will not become operational until the necessary legislative changes have been completed.

2. Regulatory Intelligence and Learning

Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry (Northern Ireland)

Northern Ireland published the Muckamore Abbey Hospital Inquiry Report in June 2026, examining serious abuse within services for people with learning disabilities.

The report is particularly relevant to Jersey given the similarities associated with regulating services within a relatively small jurisdiction. Board Members are strongly encouraged to read the report.

Key Regulatory Lessons

The Inquiry found that between 2009 and 2019 the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) conducted more than 100 inspections of the hospital. Although inspections identified concerns including:

- Staffing shortages;
- Safeguarding weaknesses;
- Excessive restrictive practices; and
- Governance failures.

The inspection approach relied heavily on documentation reviews and periodic inspections.

The Inquiry concluded that effective regulation must move beyond procedural compliance and episodic inspection. It highlighted the importance of:

- Understanding organisational culture;
- Triangulating multiple sources of intelligence;
- Engaging directly with families and, where possible, people receiving care;
- Reviewing all available evidence, including CCTV where concerns arise;
- Using proactive and risk-based regulatory approaches; and
- Acting decisively when indicators associated with abuse are present.

These findings reinforce the Commission's commitment to intelligence-led and risk-based regulation.

Nottingham Maternity Review (Ockenden Report)

Donna Ockenden's final review into maternity services at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust was published during the month.

As the largest maternity review ever undertaken in the NHS, the report highlights extensive failures in care experienced by women, babies and families over many years.

The findings serve as a further reminder of the importance of effective independent regulation and the need for robust oversight as the Commission prepares to extend its remit into additional health services.

Board Members are also encouraged to review this report.

Childrens Homes

[Ofsted outlines plans to tackle sharp growth in unregistered children's homes - GOV.UK](#)

3. Communications and Public Engagement

Parish Magazine Campaign

An article promoting the work of the Commission and outlining plans for the future regulation and inspection of hospital, ambulance and mental health services has been distributed through all Parish magazines during July 2026 (Appendix 1).

Media Interest

The Commission continues to experience media interest regarding mental health services, including coverage of improvements to support for young people experiencing mental health crisis.

Commission Podcast Series

The second podcast series is now underway, focusing on:

- Celebrating examples of outstanding care;
- Exploring personalised approaches to care delivery; and
- Sharing learning from providers and professionals.

Contributors include Learning Disability Registered Managers from the Government of Jersey and representatives from Les Amis.

A series of supporting social media clips will also be released throughout the campaign.

4. Regulatory Development and Training

EPSO-Net Conference, Malta

The Chief Inspector attended the EPSO-Net Conference in Malta from 16–18 June 2026.

Key areas of learning and engagement included:

1. Meeting international regulators, including representatives from New Zealand, to discuss approaches to regulating assisted dying services.
2. Meeting John Farrelly, Chief Executive of Ireland's Mental Health Commission, to discuss opportunities for future collaboration and shared learning.
3. Discussing risk-based regulation with Norwegian academics.
4. Exploring the practical use of Artificial Intelligence in regulation with colleagues from Singapore, Ireland and the Care Quality Commission (England).
5. Learning about the impact of isolation on elderly people and young people living in residential care settings.
6. Discussing Professor Siri Wiig's European resilience programme for social care, which seeks to reduce workforce stress, burnout and turnover through an evidence-based support framework.

Erasmus University

Three Regulation Officers have successfully completed the International Regulatory Course delivered by Erasmus University.

This represents an important investment in regulatory capability and professional development.

5. Health and Care Jersey Leadership

The Chief Inspector has been advised of ongoing senior leadership changes within Health and Care Jersey. [Concerns raised about breadth of mental-health director's new dual role - Bailiwick Express News Jersey](#)

The Commission will continue to monitor developments and maintain constructive engagement with Health and Care Jersey leadership as preparations continue for future registration and inspection activity.

6. Policies, Guidance and Standards

Duty of Candour Guidance

Duty of Candour guidance was published on the Commission's website in June 2026.

An associated communications programme is currently being developed and will be delivered throughout July and August 2026, led by a Regulation Officer.

Assisted Dying Standards

Draft assisted dying standards are currently being developed.

A public consultation is anticipated in September 2026.

The Chief Inspector is aware that Government of Jersey recruitment is currently underway for the Chairperson of the Assisted Dying Assurance and Delivery Board.

Complaints Policy Consultation

A public consultation has been completed regarding revisions to the Commission's complaints policy. The review reflects recent amendments to the Regulation of Care (Jersey) Law.

Feedback was received from organisations and members of the public and is currently being incorporated into the revised policy.

Completion of the updated policy remains on track for the end of July 2026.

7. Expansion of Regulation

Hospital, Ambulance and Mental Health Services

The Commission continues preparations for the future regulation of hospital, ambulance and mental health services.

A meeting has been held with Health and Care Jersey to discuss the registration process.

It is anticipated that registration applications will be submitted by October 2026, enabling planning for future inspection and regulatory activity.

8.0 Childrens Social Care

The Commission is aware of the campaign: [Providing loving homes](#) and is aware of the endorsement by the Commission.

9.0 Safeguarding Partnership Jersey

The Commission were invited to attend to present on Regulation and Inspection. Tara MacNair provided a presentation.