



BAILIWICK OF GUERNSEY LAW ENFORCEMENT

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MEDIA STATEMENT

14/01/18

Statement from Patrick Rice, Guernsey Police Chief Officer:

'I am aware of a significant amount of speculation, being circulated both via social media and international media reports, in relation to our investigation into the circumstances surrounding a burnt-out car being found on the morning of Monday 8th January.

'As such I take this opportunity to update the community on the factual position of the investigation.

'We have confirmed the identity markings on the car. The vehicle is registered to Mr Mikus Alps, who as we previously confirmed was reported missing on Wednesday 10th January. Officers have carried out searches at various properties linked to Mr Alps. I am aware of speculation that further remains have been found. While I would not normally comment on rumour, on this occasion I will confirm that no such additional discovery has been made.

'I can also now confirm the presence of parts of human skeletal remains in the car. This was confirmed following examination by a specialist in the field.

'At this point I cannot stress enough that people should avoid jumping to conclusions or speculating on this case. We cannot confirm the identity of the deceased at this stage. A post mortem will be carried out later this week, with further forensic tests needed to try and confirm identity. This process may take a couple of weeks due to the nature of the remains.

'I would also repeat our earlier statement that we are keeping an open mind about the potential direction of this investigation. We will be guided by facts and not speculation.

'This is a local investigation being carried out by local officers. However, as is always the case, should we need additional support or specialist advice we can access it from colleagues in the UK.

'We will hold a press conference tomorrow [Monday] to further address the circumstances of this investigation.'

ENDS

Issued by Roisin Gauson, Communications Officer for Home Affairs, telephone number 719451.