

**MEDIA STATEMENT (Embargoed till 22 June 2007, 6PM)**

22 June 2007

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**COC inquiry into loss of funds at St John's  
Home for Elderly Persons**

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The Commissioner of Charities has started an inquiry into St John's Home for Elderly Persons (the "Home"). On 11 June 2007, the Home reported to the Ministry of Community Development, Youth and Sports and the Police that approximately \$3.8 million are missing from its fixed deposit accounts in two banks. The sum is alleged to have been withdrawn by a member of the staff without authorisation. The inquiry would ascertain how the loss occurred and assess the governance and financial control systems at the Home.

The Institution of Public Character status of the Home will be reviewed, taking into account the findings of the inquiry.

**THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF CHARITIES  
22 JUNE 2007**