

STATES OF JERSEY



WHISTLEBLOWING – INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION (P.47/2023): AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 11th July 2023
by the Minister for Social Security
Earliest date for debate: 18th July 2023

STATES GREFFE

WHISTLEBLOWING – INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION (P.47/2023):
AMENDMENT

1 PAGE 2 –

For the words “Chief Minister” substitute “Minister for Social Security”.

2 PAGE 2 –

For the word “June” substitute “December”.

MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

Note: After this amendment, the proposition would read as follows –

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –

to agree that Whistleblowing legislation should be introduced, and to request the **Minister for Social Security**, in consultation with the Council of Ministers, to bring forward the necessary legislation for approval by the Assembly prior to the end of **December** 2024.

REPORT

Ministers acknowledge the need for legal protection for whistle-blowers.

The amendment seeks to extend the timeframe within which these proposals are to be developed and places responsibility for developing proposals with the Minister for Social Security.

Subject to States approval, the Minister for Social Security will include this work in her 2024 delivery plan. The project will include an examination of whistleblowing protection in other jurisdictions and the Minister will instruct the Employment Forum to undertake a consultation on the appropriate employment rights for inclusion within Jersey legislation.

The report identifies that there will be “substantial manpower implications” to develop policies and legislation in this area. It will not be possible to develop policy options, undertake a consultation and complete law drafting in the first half of next year. As such, the amendment seeks to complete this project by the end of 2024.

Financial and staffing implications

There are no additional financial implications arising from the amendment.

Policy resources will be required to undertake this project and therefore will not be available for other agreed priorities.

It is not yet clear if the implementation of any policy will have ongoing revenue costs for Government. To the extent such costs arise, the report does not identify a funding source for this additional expenditure and this will be investigated as part of the overall project in 2024. Whilst Ministers are supportive of this proposal, its implementation will be entirely dependent upon securing sufficient funding (if any) on an ongoing basis. Concluding the project by the end of 2024 will allow for a bid for funding in the 2025 Government Plan to be sought, if necessary.