

STATES OF JERSEY



ELECTION CAMPAIGN PERIOD: RESTRICTIONS (P.174/2011) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 6th January 2012
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Privileges and Procedures Committee is sympathetic to the issue raised by Deputy R.G. Le Hérissier of St. Saviour, namely that additional restrictions should be introduced during the election period, but is nevertheless of the view that the matters raised in this proposition should be considered as part of an holistic review of the Public Elections (Jersey) Law 2002.

A Sub-Committee is currently being established to undertake a review of the Law and all members of the States have been invited to express an interest in taking part. The review will look at how effective the changes introduced before the 2011 elections were and what further amendments might be required prior to the 2014 elections.

It would therefore be in the interests of the States to defer any decisions in respect of the period between nomination meetings and election day until they have been given full consideration as part of this review. The review will, for example, be able to consider whether a 4 week period between nomination day and the election would be adequate to allow proper time for the distribution of the manifesto booklet and for postal and pre-poll voting. The Committee believes it would be premature to take a decision to have a 4 week period before the overall review has been completed.