

2.14 The Deputy of St. Martin of the Chief Minister regarding the review of the role of the unelected members of the States:

Given that in his comments on P.118 of 2009 relating to the review of the role of the unelected Members of the States, the Chief Minister stated that a proposition with the names of the chairman and panel members would be lodged on 20th October and debated on 3rd November, which is today. Will the Chief Minister outline the reasons for his continuing delay?

Senator T.A. Le Sueur (The Chief Minister):

I regret that it did prove impossible to lodge a proposition by 20th October. Selecting a potential chairman with appropriate qualifications and experience and individuals within the community who have the necessary qualities to carry out this important review has not been an easy task. Inevitably, it takes time to complete the selection procedures and I have also taken time to consult with the Privileges and Procedures Committee and Lord Carswell with regard to the short-listing of potential panel members. Yesterday, the prospective chairman - Lord Carswell - the chairman of the Privileges and Procedures Committee and I spent all afternoon interviewing potential members of the review panel. We hope to finalise our selection in the next day or 2 and I propose to lodge a proposition to nominate the chosen individuals within the next week, once they have all been contacted.

2.14.1 The Deputy of St. Martin:

Nothing like continuing to ask questions. Can I just ask the Chief Minister how many applicants have we had for the panel, please?

Senator T.A. Le Sueur:

I think it was 9, of which we have short-listed 6.

2.14.2 Deputy M. Tadier:

Can I ask if perhaps the reason for the delay is because the Chief Minister has not yet found a candidate who will come up with the right conclusion? Given that it seems so obvious, should we not consider just giving it to a local A level student thus helping to employ a local and also saving a lot of money in the bargain?

Senator T.A. Le Sueur:

No.