WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMITÉ DES CONNÉTABLES BY DEPUTY M. TADIER OF ST. BRELADE ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 26th JUNE 2018

Question

Is it the Chairman's assessment that the Parishes of St. Clement and St. Helier are significantly underrepresented in the States Assembly given their populations; and, if so, what steps will the Comité take, including making representations to the Privileges and Procedures Committee, to ensure that any such inequality is addressed during this term of office?

Answer

The Privileges and Procedures Committee has the remit for matters relating to the States Assembly and has previously taken the lead in reviewing the constitution of the Assembly. It should be noted that on 12th September 2017 the Chairman of PPC tabled an answer to a similar question (1240/5/1(466)) as follows –

"PPC's work since 2015 to identify a way of reforming the composition of the States Assembly to provide for a fairer distribution of voters between electoral districts which would command a consensus in the Assembly is set out in its comments to the proposition entitled 'Composition and Election of the States Assembly' (P.133/2016) lodged by Deputy Andrew Lewis. Although the Assembly adopted the proposition, as amended, the Assembly did not adopt the law changes necessary to bring the new electoral arrangements into force in time for the next election."

With the exception of newly-elected Connétables, members of the Comité have considered proposals previously debated by the States Assembly. If PPC brings forward proposals for reform then these will also be considered by the Comité.