

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY S.Y. MÉZEC OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 28th APRIL 2015**

Question

In November 2014, following public consultation, the government's report on same-sex marriage ('Equal Marriage and Partnership: Options Paper Report – November 2014' R.170/2015) said that the Council of Ministers was committed to bringing forward a report and proposition to establish a timeline, and States approval for, the introduction same-sex marriage in the first quarter of 2015.

Could the Chief Minister explain why this deadline has been missed and provide an updated timeframe for the introduction of same-sex marriage?

Answer

The report and proposition has been delayed to allow for more detailed consideration of matters pertaining to divorce and the future of civil partnerships. This includes consideration of the findings from a Jersey Law Commission consultation on divorce reform which has only just been concluded.

It is anticipated that the report and proposition will therefore be lodged in early summer 2015. It will uphold the previously stated commitment to making same-sex marriage a reality in Jersey by the end of 2017.