WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF THE PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE BY DEPUTY M.R. SCOTT OF ST. BRELADE QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 28th OCTOBER 2024 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 4th NOVEMBER 2024

Question

"Will the Chair advise what work, if any, is being undertaken by the Privileges and Procedures Committee to consult with Members to identify any problems and inefficiencies arising from the multi-constituency representative system introduced at the last election, in order to appraise the change in electoral representation and present any potential improvements to the Assembly before the next general public election; and if no work has been undertaken, why not?"

Answer

The Privileges and Procedures Committee, working with the Greffier and her staff at the States Greffe, has canvassed views via an annual survey to ascertain how best to support Members' work. Having acknowledged that the changes to the electoral districts which were implemented at the elections in June 2022 have seen a rise in constituency workloads, particularly for those now serving a constituency comprising three separate Parishes, a Constituency Support team has been created to assist Members.

Following a short trial period where support was given to three constituencies, the service was expanded to encompass all 9 constituencies from the beginning of October 2024. The team is able to provide practical support to Members in dealing with public enquiries, undertaking research, attending constituency drop-in sessions and liaising with stakeholders to assist with casework. In addition, there is a constituency support fund available for Members to receive some financial assistance towards the cost of promotional material and constituency newsletters.