

Privileges and Procedures Committee

Political Awareness and Education Sub-Committee

(6th Meeting)

22nd January 2024

Part A

All members were present with the exception of Deputy M. B. Andrews of St Helier from whom apologies had been received.

Deputy C.A. Alves of St Helier
Deputy R. L. Kovacs of St Helier
Deputy I. Gardiner of St Helier
Deputy R. Ward of St Helier
Deputy C. Labey of Grouville and St Martin
Connétable M.A Labey of Grouville

In attendance -

Ms J. O'Brien, Head of Digital and Public Engagement
Mr. W. Millow, Deputy Greffier of the States
Ms K. Boydens, Principal Committee and Panel Officer
Ms J. Lepp, Research and Project Officer

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A

Minutes. A1. The Sub-Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November 2023.

Citizenship Day Letter. A2. The Sub-Committee discussed a letter received from the Chair of the Comité des Connétables regarding the Citizenship Day and information pack for parishioners. The Sub-Committee noted that the Chair of the Comité had invited the Chair of the Sub-Committee to attend its next meeting on 19th February 2024.

The Sub-Committee agreed that the youth of Jersey should participate in any planning discussions to ensure that any events organised would be something that they would attend. The Sub-Committee also discussed parish engagement, secondary school visits and lessons (PSHE classes) as a way to reach the youth and build their understanding of elections and processes.

The Head of Digital and Public Engagement advised that due to the vacant Education Manager post, there is currently limited capacity within the Digital and Public Engagement team to lead and coordinate a push on Member visits to schools, however that recruitment for that role would commence as soon as the grading has been confirmed by HR. The Sub-Committee was also advised that, once a new Education Manager is on board, a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program for teachers would be developed in an effort to support teachers with delivery of political education in Jersey. The Sub-Committee agreed that Member visits to schools should recommence as soon as possible and that they would reach out to schools directly to arrange sessions.

The Head of Digital and Public Engagement advised that she would share existing lesson plans with the Sub-Committee via Teams, for use during school visits.

Research Findings and Jersey Opinion and Lifestyle Survey.

A3. The Sub-Committee discussed a report published by Dr Chris Pich of Nottingham Trent University exploring islanders' attitudes towards voting in the 2022 General Election 'Exploring the Voter Journey in the Context of Jersey: Engagement, Barriers and Recommendations'.

The Head of Digital and Public Engagement (D&PE) advised that Dr Pich had worked in partnership with the Digital and Public Engagement Team on the research and that the intention had originally been for the report to be published in January 2024. This was to enable a press release to be published alongside the Jersey Opinion and Lifestyle Survey (JOLS) findings and the activity planned in response to both pieces of research.

The Sub-Committee was advised that the Digital and Public Engagement Team had highlighted a number of points with Dr Pich about the recommendations contained in the report and the actions which may stem from them. The Sub-Committee asked the Head of D&PE to produce a summary of their feedback, which could be reviewed by the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee also requested that it was provided with paper copies of the report.

Digital and Public Engagement Achievements 2023.

A4. The Head of Digital and Public Engagement provided the Sub-Committee with a summary of the Digital and Public Engagement Achievements of 2023 including the delivered items, and an update on items which were continuing to be worked on into 2024.

Digital and Public Engagement Priorities and KPIs for Q1.

A5. The Head of Digital and Public Engagement provided the Sub-Committee with an overview of Digital and Public Engagement priorities for the first quarter of 2024.

New States Assembly Website.

A6. The Head of Digital and Public Engagement provided the Sub-Committee with an update on the status of the new States Assembly website. Currently, the website was making steady progress and had received positive impressions. It was noted that the Digital and Public Engagement team was working through 'snagging issues' with the website, making sure each page/link/document was working properly. The team was also ensuring that the new website responded well on mobile phones to provide an enhanced experience for new and existing users.

In regard to posting languages spoken by Members, the Sub-Committee discussed whether flags should be inserted next to the Members' name on their individual profile pages. The Sub-Committee confirmed that they would like flags representing the languages spoken by each Member to be added to their individual pages on the new website.

The Sub-Committee also discussed updates to the webcasting system of States Assembly meetings, specifically the quality of the video. The Deputy Greffier updated the Sub-Committee on this issue and advised that Public-i was working on upgrading their equipment so that the quality could be improved.

Recruitment Update.

A7. The Head of Digital and Public Engagement provided an update to the Sub-Committee on recruitment for the Education and Outreach Manager positions. It was discussed that the positions would be advertised at the same time and that HR reviews of the job descriptions were expected to be complete within the next two weeks. It was hoped that the positions could be recruited to within a four-month period.

The Sub-Committee requested that a description of the roles and responsibilities of each member of the Digital and Public Engagement be shared with the sub-committee for information.

Communication with Political Awareness and Education Sub-Committee

A8. The Sub-Committee requested that it received communications via the designated Teams channel as well as through emails to ensure that items are not missed.

Political Engagement Suggestions.

A9. The Sub-Committee discussed a number of public engagement suggestions that were received by a member of the public. The Deputy Greffier advised the Sub-Committee that the Privileges and Procedures Committee had also discussed the suggestions at its meeting in January 2024 meeting and would be responding to the member of the public.

Future Meetings.

A10. The Sub-Committee agreed that the next meeting due to be held on the 19th February 2024 would be rescheduled due to the invitation by the Comité des Connétables for the Chair to attend its next meeting. The Sub-Committee tasked the Research and Project Officer with sending out a new date for the next meeting.