

PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

(117th Meeting)

20th September 2011

[Business conducted by electronic mail]

PART A

All members were present.

Connétable J. Gallichan of St. Mary, Chairman  
 Senator B.I. Le Marquand  
 Senator S.C. Ferguson  
 Connétable P.F.M. Hanning of St. Saviour  
 Deputy J.B. Fox  
 Deputy J.A. Martin  
 Deputy T.M. Pitman

In attendance -

M.N. de la Haye, Greffier of the States  
 P. Monamy, Acting Clerk to the Privileges and Procedures Committee

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A only.

“States of  
 Jersey Law  
 2005: removal  
 of restrictions  
 on number of  
 Ministers and  
 Assistant  
 Ministers”  
 (P.145/2011):  
 comment.  
 450/1(17)

A1. The Committee, having noted a report and proposition entitled: “States of Jersey Law 2005: removal of restrictions on number of Ministers and Assistant Ministers” (P.145/2011 – lodged ‘on Greffe’ on 22nd August 2011 by Senator B.E. Shenton), considered its views on the proposition.

The Committee agreed that a review of the present structure of the machinery of government in Jersey would be desirable and considered that such a view was shared by many members of the present States Assembly. However, the Committee did not consider that it would be appropriate to support Senator Shenton’s proposal in isolation prior to in-depth work being carried out to consider the potential impact that any such change would have on scrutiny or whether there was, in fact, a need for an increased number of Assistant Ministers.

**The Committee accordingly approved its comment on P.145/2011 and requested the Greffier of the States to arrange for it to be presented to the States for their information.**

Draft  
 Amendment  
 (No. 17) of the  
 Standing  
 Orders of the  
 States of  
 Jersey:  
 S.O.s 92, 94  
 and 116.

A2. The Committee recalled that the States had, on 15th September 2011, adopted a proposition of Deputy T. Pitman that the election for Chief Minister should be held by open ballot and not by secret ballot (*P.126/2011 referred*).

The Committee, having agreed that it would be desirable for this matter to be brought forward as swiftly as possible so that the change could be debated by the present States Assembly in November 2011 and, if adopted, be in place for the selection of the new Chief Minister on 14th November 2011, accordingly approved the draft Amendment (No. 17) of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey which

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it was noted would amend Standing Orders 92, 94 and 116 such as to provide for the new arrangements.

**The Committee, having also approved an explanatory report to accompany the draft legislation, decided to lodge the projet 'au Greffe' at the earliest opportunity and requested the Greffier of the States to take the necessary action.**