

STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN 2015 – 2018 (P.27/2015): AMENDMENT (P.27/2015 Amd.) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 27th April 2015
by the Council of Ministers**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

It is difficult to reject an amendment that simply asks for a review to take place. Accepting the amendment would not pre-determine anything, it would just initiate a piece of work to assess the relative merits of change.

Nevertheless, the Council of Ministers believes that this amendment should be rejected.

The Strategic Plan is designed to reflect the priorities on which we must deliver what is most important for the well-being of Islanders. This is why the Council of Ministers has chosen areas such as improving education and economic growth. As to the town of St. Helier, this priority is about improving the everyday lives of people who live and work in or visit our town. The reform of the municipal government structure of St. Helier hardly seems high as a priority in this context.

It needs to be understood that government and legislature have limited capacity to make change and undertake work, including reviews, in a single term of office. In short, we must genuinely prioritise.

It is far from clear who would undertake this review, and with what resources. It is outside the role of the Privileges and Procedures Committee, for example. In so far as the executive is concerned, it would not wish to undertake this review in this term of office and, for that reason, the Council of Ministers asks that the amendment be rejected. Should other parties wish to undertake the review, they are free to do so.