

# STATES OF JERSEY



## CODE OF PRACTICE ON PUBLIC ACCESS TO OFFICIAL INFORMATION: MEASURES TO IMPROVE IMPLEMENTATION (P.164/2003) – AMENDMENT

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Lodged au Greffe on 6th January 2004  
by Senator S. Syvret

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STATES GREFFE

CODE OF PRACTICE ON PUBLIC ACCESS TO OFFICIAL INFORMATION: MEASURES TO IMPROVE  
IMPLEMENTATION (P.164/2003) – AMENDMENT

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*In paragraph (a)(i), in the inserted new subparagraph (l), for the words “and agenda support papers” substitute the words “, agenda support papers and minutes”.*

SENATOR S. SYVRET

## **REPORT**

The purpose of this amendment is to ensure that the requirement to draft documents so as to allow maximum disclosure extends to minutes. At first glance it may appear that the maximum disclosure requirement which will apply to agendas and support papers would of itself lead to maximum disclosure of minutes. However, it is perfectly feasible for a committee or its sub-committee to consider a Part A agenda item and then introduce some aspect into the discussion, and possibly even the decision, which may purport to be covered by an exemption and thus the minute will become a Part B item. Such an event may, of course, be perfectly justified and legitimate, in which case there will be no difficulty in citing the relevant exemption in the event of the information being sought. Nevertheless to avoid the possibility of Part B material being introduced into a discussion for the purpose of making the minute secret, the amendment creates an unambiguous requirement to draft minutes so as to allow maximum disclosure.

There are no financial or manpower implications arising from this amendment.