

STATES OF JERSEY



COMMON STRATEGIC POLICY (P.98/2022): SEVENTH AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 8th November 2022
by Deputy L.V. Feltham of St. Helier Central
Earliest date for debate: 22nd November 2022

STATES GREFFE

COMMON STRATEGIC POLICY (P.98/2022): SEVENTH AMENDMENT

1 PAGE 2 –

After the words “report of this Proposition” insert the words –

“, except that on page 15 of the report in the “Community” section, after the second paragraph there should be inserted the following new paragraph –

“We will ensure that the services and facilities provided by the Government are accessible and that the government departments have access and inclusion plans in place so that all people are treated equitably.””

DEPUTY L.V. FELTHAM OF ST. HELIER CENTRAL

Note: After this amendment, the proposition would read as follows –

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –

in accordance with Article 18(2)(e) of the States of Jersey Law 2005, to approve the statement of the Common Strategic Policy of the Council of Ministers as set out in the report of this Proposition, except that on page 15 of the report in the “Community” section after the second paragraph, should be inserted the following new paragraph –

“We will ensure that the services and facilities provided by the Government are accessible and that the government departments have access and inclusion plans in place so that all people are treated equitably.”

REPORT

The purpose of the amendment is to formalise and clarify the intention of the Council of Ministers and broader States Assembly to make government services and facilities accessible and inclusive.

The Council of Ministers has quite rightly put inclusivity at the heart of its vision for Government. This amendment seeks to support this by recognising that the Government and its departments have their own role to play in ensuring that the services and facilities they provide are accessible to all members of our community.

The amendment also makes a clear commitment for government departments to have access and inclusion plans in place to further improve access where required and make sure that access and inclusion is considered when new services and facilities are designed and delivered. Such plans will ensure that the Government is able to meet its obligations under the [Discrimination \(Jersey\) Law 2013](#). The amendment does not seek to prescribe what an access and inclusion plan should include for each department, and it is important to note that such plans should not become a tick-box exercise.

The amendment aligns with several existing government initiatives such as:

- The Disability and Inclusion Strategy, which aims to improve the wellbeing of Islanders with disabilities and challenge inequalities faced by people with disabilities;
- The Older Persons' Living Forum, which aims to make sure that the older community are included in Government decision making; and
- The International Cultural Centre, which will provide information about services in Jersey and improve access to those services across the community.

It also aligns with the key priorities for the new Assembly identified by the outgoing Diversity Forum in its [Legacy Report](#), in particular:

- Modelling inclusive leadership and behaviour in the States Assembly and civil service

Financial and manpower implications

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

Whilst officer time will be required to complete accessibility and inclusion plans, this work should be undertaken as part of government departments' usual business and therefore be accounted for within existing operational budgets.