

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PRIVILEGES AND
PROCEDURES COMMITTEE BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 4th JUNE 2013**

Question

Does the Chairman consider it satisfactory that comments and similar information arrive so close to a debate that members may not have sufficient time to digest their contents and, if not, will his Committee be addressing the matter?

Answer

This would not be a satisfactory state of affairs were it the norm. Thankfully, both the executive and scrutiny functions have a generally satisfactory record of presenting comments and similar information to the Assembly in good time.

In the case of comments, Standing Order 37A requires that comments forwarded to the States Greffe after noon on the preceding Friday be accompanied by a statement explaining the reason for their lateness. There have been 24 such statements made since the Standing Order came into force during 2011, with 6 having been made so far in 2013. Although the majority were made by the executive, some were submitted by Scrutiny.

I have written to the Chief Minister inviting him to consider whether anything might be done to further limit the number of occasions on which the executive presents a late comment to the States Assembly.