

STATES OF JERSEY



COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY: SUSPENSION OF THE CHIEF OFFICER OF THE STATES OF JERSEY POLICE (P.9/2010) – COMMENTS

Presented to the States on 15th February 2010
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

Paragraph (a) of the proposition asks the States to agree that a Committee of Inquiry be established in respect of procedures surrounding the suspension of the Chief Officer of the States of Jersey Police. The Privileges and Procedures Committee has no comment to make in respect of this part of the proposition as this matter falls outside its terms of reference.

The Committee's comments are concerned with paragraph (b) of the proposition, which asks the States to appoint 5 persons as members of the Committee of Inquiry. The Committee would point out that there is no evidence in the report accompanying the proposition regarding the appointments process followed by the Deputy of St. Martin to identify these individuals. It is only appropriate that all such appointments follow the Jersey Appointments Commission Code of Practice for appointments to autonomous and quasi-autonomous public bodies and tribunals and there is no evidence that process has been followed in this case. States members are rightly critical in the Assembly when propositions relating to appointments are brought forward with no evidence that an open and transparent process has been followed and PPC considers that a similar process should be used for a proposition brought forward by a private member.

The Committee would therefore ask the Deputy of St. Martin to provide information detailing the appointments procedure he followed and, if necessary, that he amend the proposition to ensure that the correct process can be pursued before any appointments are made should the States be minded to adopt paragraph (a) of the proposition.