

# STATES OF JERSEY



## **MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PARISHES AND THE EXECUTIVE (P.66/2005 AMD.)– AMENDMENT – COMMENTS**

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Presented to the States on 26th April 2005  
by the Policy and Resources Committee

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STATES GREFFE

## COMMENTS

In bringing his amendment to the 'Machinery of Government: Relationship between the Parishes and the Executive' (P.66/2005), the Connétable of St. Helier notes that the States have previously agreed that 'the cost of maintaining public parks, gardens and toilets within St. Helier should be funded by Islands ratepayers' (P.40/2004). However, this decision was taken in the wider context of a States decision which included a proposed transfer of services from the States to the Parishes, including responsibility for main roads routine maintenance. For reasons that are explained in P.66/2005, the Policy and Resources Committee and the Comité des Connétables do not propose to proceed with this aspect of the decision on P.40/2004, but to concentrate on the establishment of an Island-wide Rate that will address the fundamental problem of the distribution of the Island's welfare burden. P.66/2005 is concerned exclusively with welfare, and is not therefore relevant to the matters referred to in Connétable Crowcroft's amendment.

The Policy and Resources Committee acknowledges that the funding of St. Helier parks, gardens and toilets is an issue that needs to be addressed, and it is willing to work with the Connétable of St. Helier and the Comité des Connétables in reviewing this matter. The Committee does not believe, however, that the prime responsibility for this matter should rest with the Policy and Resources Committee, as this is essentially a matter for the parishes to resolve, and it therefore does not support the amendment.

In referring back to the States decision on P.40/2004, members will recall that it was agreed that *'the Finance and Economics Committee should be charged to undertake a review of the States' land and property portfolio in order to bring recommendations to the States before the end of July 2005 regarding the States' liability to rates.'* The Policy and Resources Committee would like to take this opportunity to report that good progress is being made in this review, and it is understood that the Finance and Economics Committee is on target to bring recommendations to the States before the end of July 2005.