

Privileges and Procedures Committee

(15th Meeting)
(Business conducted electronically)

10th January 2025

Part A (Non-Exempt)

All members were present, with the exception of Deputies L.K.F. Stephenson of St. Mary, St Ouen and St. Peter, and L.M.C. Doublet of St. Saviour.

Connétable K. Shenton-Stone of St. Martin, Chair
Deputy T.A. Coles of St. Helier South
Deputy S.M. Ahier of St. Helier North
Connétable M.K. Jackson of St. Brelade

In attendance -

K.M. LARBALÉSTIER, Principal Secretariat Officer, Specialist Secretariat

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A only.

Selection of
elected
Member to
Preside at
States
Meetings
(P.86/2024):
comments.

A1. The Committee considered draft comments which had been prepared in response to the proposition entitled 'Selection of elected Member to Preside at States Meetings' (P.86/2024), which had been lodged 'au Greffe' by Deputy I.J. Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter on 5th October 2024.

The Committee noted that the proposition specifically related to the application of Article 3(2) of the States of Jersey Law 2005, which required the Bailiff to select an elected Member or the Greffier/Deputy Greffier of the States to preside at the States meeting in the event that the Bailiff/Deputy Bailiff were unable to do so.

The Committee recalled that, for whatever reason, the Greffier/Deputy Greffier normally acted as Presiding Officer in the absence of the Bailiff/Deputy Bailiff, with the last occasion an elected Member having presided being in 2016. Deputy Gorst's proposition sought approval for amendments to the legislation and Standing Orders so that the Greffier/Deputy Greffier would only preside when the Bailiff/Deputy Bailiff or an elected Member was unavailable.

The Committee considered the draft comments, which merely highlighted the fact that, if adopted, the proposition would only allow the elected Member selected to preside in the absence of the Bailiff/Deputy Bailiff to exercise the powers and responsibilities of the Presiding Officer during States meetings. The Bailiff as President (or the Deputy Bailiff in his/her absence) would retain responsibility for the consideration and approval of propositions and questions and the determination of any rulings required outside of meetings.

Having considered the comments, the Committee approved the same for presentation, subject to an amendment to the text which would see the removal of commentary which suggested that the adoption of the proposition could be viewed as a move closer to removing the role of the Bailiff as Presiding Officer of the States Assembly.

