QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 25th MAY 2004, BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN

Question

Would the President inform members what progress has been made regarding the consultation process relating to the future reallocation of the work currently undertaken by the Legislation Committee when the ministerial system is introduced at the end of 2005, as indicated in P.70/2002 of the Policy and Resources Committee adopted, as amended, by the States on 24th July 2002?

Answer

In approving P.70/2002, the States agreed that the number of Committees should be reduced in order to aid the transition to the ministerial system. In relation to the Legislation Committee, the States agreed that this Committee should remain in place during the transitional period, in accordance with paragraph 6.11 of the report accompanying P.70/2002. It was also agreed that consultation with the Legislation Committee should take place during the transitional period, involving others connected with its work such as H.M. Attorney General and the Law Commission, before proposing how its functions should be undertaken once the ministerial system comes into effect.

I can advise members that the Legislation Committee has been giving active consideration to this matter, and has given particular attention to the allocation of responsibility for legislation that currently falls within its brief, including the Public Elections Law and laws relating to the courts and court procedures. It has been agreed that a meeting will take place in the next few weeks between the Policy and Resources Committee and the President of the Legislation Committee in order to discuss how to proceed in this matter. In the meantime, I understand that it is the firm intention of the Legislation Committee to consult with those who will be affected by any changes to the current arrangements, including the Attorney General and the Law Commission.