

KS

PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

(60th Meeting)

23rd March 2020**PART A (Non-Exempt)**

All members were present, with the exception of Connétable C. H. Taylor of St. John.

Deputy R. Labey of St. Helier, Chairman
 Connétable A.S. Crowcroft of St. Helier (via video link)
 Deputy J.M. Maçon of St. Saviour
 Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat of St. Helier (via video link)
 Deputy C.S. Alves of St. Helier (via video link)
 Deputy J.H. Perchard of St. Saviour (via video link)

In attendance -

Dr. M. Egan, Greffier of the States (via video link)
 L.M. Hart, Deputy Greffier of the States
 W. Millow, Assistant Greffier of the States (Chamber and Members' Resources) (via video link)
 K.L. Slack, Principal Committee and Panel Officer

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A and Part B.

Welcome. A1. The Chairman welcomed Members of the Committee and officers to a meeting of the Committee that was being streamed, in part, via the Office 365 Teams video, because of the requirement to adhere to social distancing guidance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Forthcoming items for debate by the States Assembly. 465/1(210) A2. The Chairman informed the Committee that he had received positive feedback from Members of the States on whether, at the forthcoming meeting of the Assembly, Members should be able to ask any Minister questions without notice during a 30 minute period. The Committee recalled that this was the format that had been adopted for questions without notice during the extraordinary meeting of the Assembly, which had taken place on 18th March 2020.

The Committee was reminded that if the decision was taken to suspend the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey, there would be no facility to ask any questions without notice. It would be necessary to lodge a Proposition to introduce a different scheme for questions without notice, which was not feasible in advance of the meeting on 24th March 2020. Moreover, in order to effect such a change, the proposal would need to be debated and this could only take place after questions without notice to Ministers. The Committee was mindful that the meeting on 18th March 2020, had been an additional meeting, convened under Standing Order 6, so it had been possible to operate in a different and more flexible way. This would also be the case for any future extraordinary meeting, including the one scheduled to take place on 27th March 2020.

It was agreed that the Chairman would contact the Bailiff, via electronic mail, to ascertain if he would be minded to agree to questions without notice being put to Ministers in the aforementioned way at the next meeting.