WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIR OF THE PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE BY DEPUTY M.R. SCOTT OF ST. BRELADE QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 18TH JULY 2022 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 25TH JULY 2022

Question

"Will the Chair commit to seeking amendments to the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey to require the Chief Minister to disclose the identities of both Ministers and Assistant Ministers before nominations for the Chairs of Scrutiny Panels are made; and, if so, will she raise this matter as part of the work programme of the Committee to be implemented before the next election?"

Answer

As the Privileges and Procedures Committee was only established on 19th July, I will raise this matter with the Committee during one of its first meetings.

My initial thoughts are that opportunities may indeed be lost at present with some Members refraining from putting their names forward for Panel membership (including as Chair) in case they are chosen as Assistant Ministers. Therefore, I do believe this requires further consideration, and, should the Committee agree, it will be added to the work programme. I anticipate that any work on this matter would require consultation with Members, particularly the Chief Minister, and might involve changes to the States of Jersey Law 2005 (which governs the appointment of Assistant Ministers) as well as, or instead of, changes to Standing Orders.