STATES OF JERSEY



JERSEY COMMUNITY RELATIONS TRUST: APPOINTMENT OF STATES TRUSTEE

Presented to the States on 27th April 2023 by the Minister for Home Affairs

STATES GREFFE

2023 R.66

REPORT

Jersey Community Relations Trust: Appointment of States Trustee

The Minister for Home Affairs intends to appoint Deputy C. S. Alves of St. Helier Central as Trustee of the Jersey Community Relations Trust.

The Jersey Community Relations Trust – States Member Trustee role.

The JCRT was established by the States of Jersey on 3rd September 2004, with the following aim:

"To seek to eliminate discrimination on any ground including, but not limited to, grounds of colour, race, nationality or ethnic or national origins, gender or sexual orientation, disability or age, by promoting good relations between all members of society, and seeking to achieve equality of treatment and opportunity within our community."

The constitution of the Jersey Community Relations Trust (JCRT) provides that the Committee of Trustees shall comprise an independent Chairman (who is not a States Member), a Member of the States of Jersey who is committed to the objectives of the Trust, and a further 5 Trustees who are not States Members, and who are appointed by the existing Trustees. The Chairman and States Member are appointed by the Minister for Home Affairs.

Before appointing the Trustee who is a Member of the States, the Minister is required to provide at least 15 days' notice to the Assembly of the intention to make the appointment. Trustees are appointed for a period of 4 years, and in the case of the Member of the States, the appointment would be for a period of 4 years, or for as long as they remain a Member of the States, whichever shall be the shorter period.

Deputy L.M.C. Doublet has served as a Trustee during the two previous terms, since January 2015. The Minister wishes to place on record her gratitude to Deputy Doublet for her contribution. It is clear that she brought considerable experience and passion for the work of the Trust throughout her time as Trustee and made a very valuable contribution on behalf of the Assembly.

In order to appoint a new Trustee, the Minister sought expressions of interest from members via email on 7th February 2023. The Minister was very pleased to have received expressions of interest from four Members, including Deputy Alves.

Diversity and Inclusion – joining the dots.

Members will be aware that the Chief Minister, in <u>R.10/2023</u>, has confirmed that the Minister for Home Affairs shall be responsible for promoting Diversity, Equality and Social Inclusion.

The Home Affairs Ministerial Team have therefore begun the work of scoping a cohesive program of work to advance this as a priority, which will be included in the Minister's next Ministerial Plan.

As part of this, consideration has been given to aligning the work being undertaken by the Executive and the Assembly in this space, to ensure the priorities of both are understood and advanced, and avoid duplication.

The Diversity Forum was set up formally as a sub-committee of the Privileges and Procedures Committee (PPC) after the 2018 election to work towards the aim of the States Assembly fully reflecting the population of Jersey and representing all of the communities and interests in the Island. It aims to increase public engagement in democratic processes, particularly in relation to underrepresented groups, and has the stated aim to support the Government to achieve its aim of removing barriers and promoting inclusion and equal opportunity for all.

These aims align closely with those of the JCRT.

The Minister was therefore very pleased to receive an expression of interest from Deputy Alves, who is the current Chair of the Diversity Forum.

It is hoped that appointing Deputy Alves as a Trustee of the JCRT will facilitate a mechanism to connect Assembly priorities in this area, expressed via the Diversity Forum, into the work of the Trust who are independent of, but receive support from Government. In doing so, joining the dots between the Executive, the Assembly and the JCRT to move in a shared direction to benefit our community.