
STATES OF JERSEY



USE OF THE STATES' E-MAIL SYSTEM

**Presented to the States on 2nd June 2009
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee**

STATES GREFFE

**REPORT OF THE PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE
CONCERNING USE OF THE STATES' E-MAIL SYSTEM**

The Committee has recently completed an investigation into the decision of Deputy S. Pitman to send an e-mail entitled: 'A lesson in human rights for William' to all States' e-mail users on 18th March 2009.

The Committee noted that the Deputy had confirmed that this action had been taken deliberately and not by accident. It further noted that this decision to send the e-mail to all States users resulted in a loss of productivity throughout the States. The content of the e-mail was not relevant to a great many of the recipients, and led to several queries as to whether it had been sent in error.

The Committee concluded that, in sending the e-mail without permission from the Chief Minister's Department, Deputy Pitman breached paragraph 8 of the security procedures within the policy, which read as follows –

'You must not try to send e-mails to everyone who uses our e-mail facilities (all Exchange users) without permission from the Chief Minister's Department – Information Services.

- a. If you think you have a genuine business reason for doing this, contact the communications team who will suggest sending your request through a Chief Officer's circular.*
- b. You need to get permission before sending e-mails to another department's email distribution list. Please contact the Chief Officer of the department concerned.'*

The Committee received a number of complaints in connection with the e-mail sent by Deputy Pitman, including correspondence from the Jersey Civil Service Joint Executive, Staff Side. The Committee therefore finds it necessary to present this report to the States in order to remind members of their obligations with regard to their use of the States' e-mail system.

The Committee also wishes to notify members that, should such an action be repeated by any member of the States, this is likely to lead to the withdrawal of States' e-mail facilities for the member responsible.