

APPROVED

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
BY THE CONNÉTABLE OF ST. HELIER  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 18TH APRIL 2017**

**Question**

Would the Minister explain whether States Members on the Planning Committee have been known not to take part in determining applications concerning the Parish or district they represent and, if so, how often this occurs and what formal protocol, if any, has been agreed in respect of this practice?

**Answer**

Members will be aware that Article 9A of the Planning and Building Law, 2002 (as amended) permits the Planning Committee to determine its own procedures.

The Members of the Planning Committee have decided not to take part in any applications concerning the Parish or district they represent. This arrangement, which was also followed by the predecessor Committees, has been formalised into the Planning Committee members Code of Conduct of April 2015, which reads as follows:

*“7. With the exception of any Senator sitting on the Committee, where an item is within the electoral district that a Committee Member represents then that Member should withdraw from discussion of that item making it clear that they will not be taking part in the decision making process. Any such Member would remain entitled to make representations in connection with that item as an elected representative of the district.”*

The Department does not record the frequency in which this protocol applies.