

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES
COMMITTEE BY DEPUTY M. TADIER OF ST. BRELADE
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 20th OCTOBER 2015**

Question

Does the Chairman consider that the dual role of the Bailiff, as Presiding Officer of the States and as President of the Royal Court, should be separated, and if so, when does the Committee intend to bring a proposition to the Assembly seeking to separate those roles?

Answer

The Chairman has not yet reached a view on this matter.

The Privileges and Procedures Committee is mindful that this subject was touched upon by the Assembly in 2014, although the continuation of the dual role was not debated directly. Members may recall that the Connétable of St. Helier lodged P.160/2013 'Elected Speaker of the States'. Amendments by Senator Sir P.M. Bailhache and Deputy R.G. Le Hérisssier were approved by the States when it was debated in April 2014, inserting the requirement that any change to the role of the Bailiff as Presiding Officer should be the subject of a referendum. The Connetable of St. Helier then sought leave of the Assembly to withdraw the proposition as amended, but this was rejected and the amended P.160 was rejected 5 Votes Pour, 41 Contre and there were 4 abstentions.

Nevertheless the issue is under further discussion and a decision will be made in due course as to whether the Committee wish to bring the matter forward for re-examination by the Assembly.