STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT CRIMINAL JUSTICE (YOUNG OFFENDERS) (JERSEY) AMENDMENT LAW 202- (P.43/2025): COMMENTS

Presented to the States on 30th June 2025 by the Children, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Panel received a briefing from Government Officers about the Draft Criminal Justice (Young Offenders) (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- [P.43/2025] (the 'Proposition') on 13th June 2025, which seeks to amend the Schedule to the Criminal Justice (Young Offenders) (Jersey) Law 2014.

The Scrutiny Panel heard about the challenges that the Youth Court had to ensure that there were sufficient volunteer members available to sit as part of the of the Youth Court Panel. It was explained that the proposed change to increase the upper age limit of members (from age 60 to age 70) would allow for a greater pool of individuals to be available as Youth Court Panel members, which would help to ensure that the Court's ability to operate is not impaired.

During the briefing the Panel asked if there was a known reason that the age limit for members of the Youth Court Panel had originally been set at an age of 60 years. Officers advised that there was no specific reason recorded for this original decision.

The Panel notes that the only other change proposed as part of the Proposition is to amend certain wording so that the Schedule's references to the "Chairman" are altered to "Chair" to make it gender neutral.

The Panel is supportive of the Proposition.