

STATES OF JERSEY



SPEEDING FINES: ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO PARISHES (P.156/2005) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 27th September 2005
by the Home Affairs Committee**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

Part (b) of the Deputy's Proposition calls for the Home Affairs Committee to bring forward an amendment to the Road Traffic Law "after consultation with the Crown". The Deputy lodged the Proposition on 20th July. On 26th July the Attorney General wrote to the Chief Officer, Home Affairs, and suggested that the Committee should consult with the Lieutenant Governor at an early stage. A letter was sent to the office of the Lieutenant Governor on 11th August 2005, and the Chief Officer contacted the Receiver General who indicated that some time would be needed in order to assess any likely effect on the Crown's income. The Committee awaits a response to the issues that have been raised.

It seems to the Home Affairs Committee that if consultation with the Crown is to be meaningful, it must take place prior to any debate on the proposition which charges the Committee to bring forward the necessary amendments to the Road Traffic Law. Otherwise the Crown might legitimately question why it is being consulted after a decision has already been made by the States.

Given the above, it is the opinion of the Home Affairs Committee that the States has 2 choices–

1. to proceed to a debate without the benefit of the Crown's view; or
2. to postpone a debate until the Crown's comments can be taken into account through the presentation of a Home Affairs Committee comment.

The Home Affairs Committee favours the second option.