

PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

(65th Meeting)

1st June 2010PART A

All members were present, with the exception of Deputy J.B. Fox, Deputy J.A. Martin, Deputy M.R. Higgins, from whom apologies had been received.

Connétable J. Gallichan of St. Mary, Chairman  
 Senator B.I. Le Marquand  
 Connétable P.F.M. Hanning of St. Saviour  
 Deputy C.H. Egré

In attendance -

M.N. de la Haye, Greffier of the States  
 Mrs. A.H. Harris, Deputy Greffier of the States (Part of Item B1; Items A3, A4, A5 and A6 only)  
 Miss A-C. Heuston, Clerk to the Privileges and Procedures Committee

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A and Part B.

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| Minutes.   | A1. The Minutes of the meetings of 7th May 2010 (Part A only), 13th May (Part B only) and 18th May 2010 (Part A and Part B) were taken as read and were confirmed.   |
| States Members' Remuneration Review Body. 1240/3(73)   | <p>A2. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. B2 of 18th May 2010, recalled that it was scheduled to meet with the States Members' Remuneration Review Body on 15th June 2010.</p> <p>One area for discussion would be the possible provision of pensions for States members. The Chairman recalled that Deputy P.V.F. Le Claire had sent an e-mail to all States members which stated that the Committee had a 'closed mind' in respect of the matter. This was incorrect, as, at the request of the Committee, the Review Body was currently investigating the development of a scheme through which the States would make matched contributions to individual States members' private pension schemes. It was agreed that discussions with the Review Body would also include matters arising in respect of the Comprehensive Spending Review.</p> |
| Standing Order 168 of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey. P.63/2010 (re-issue). 450/2/1(17) | <p>A3. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A3 of 26th January 2010, received the proposition: Disposal of States property: revised procedures, lodged "<i>au Greffe</i>" by Deputy P.V.F. Le Claire on 25th May 2010 (P.63/2010 (re-issue) refers), in respect of Standing Order 168 of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey.</p> <p>The proposition asked the States to decide whether revised procedures should be introduced in respect of Ministerial Decisions made under the provisions of Standing Order 168. The Committee recalled that it had discussed Standing Order 168 with Mr. P. Griffin, Principal Valuer, Property Holdings, and Mr. M. Grant, Assistant Director, Property Holdings, at its meeting in January 2010. At that meeting the</p>   |

Committee had been minded to agree that:

- (i) deeds of arrangement should be dealt with under delegated authority;
- (ii) the grant, renewal, extension or variation of social housing agreements should only be brought before the States if more than 3 months' notice was required;
- (iii) a *de minimis* level could be set under which property transactions could be reported to States members on a monthly basis, rather than having to be reported to the States 15 working days in advance of any binding arrangement being entered into.

The Committee had invited Property Holdings to come forward with proposals for the possible amendment of the Standing Order.

Having considered Deputy Le Claire's proposition, the Committee expressed the view that members could contact Property Holdings directly if they required more information about a proposed transaction under Standing Order 168. The Committee **agreed** that a comment to this effect should be drafted for consideration at a future meeting.

The Committee Clerk was requested to take the necessary action.

Public Accounts  
Committee:  
States Spending  
Review.  
P.A.C.2/2010  
512(3).

A4. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A9 of 27th April 2010, received a draft response to the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee in its report: States Spending Review (P.A.C.2/2010 refers).

The Committee recalled that it had agreed to remind members that the proposition itself was the binding element of any projet, and that the content of the accompanying report was merely background information. It had also recommended that a mechanism, such as a register of undertakings, be put in place by the Council of Ministers to ensure that decisions of the States Assembly were realised.

The Committee **approved** the draft response and asked that it be forwarded to the Public Accounts Committee in early course.

The Committee Clerk was requested to take the necessary action.

States members'  
facilities:  
Refreshment  
Assistant.  
1240/9/1(137)

A5. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A9(a) of 16th March 2010, discussed the provision of refreshments for States members during States sittings following the retirement of the former States tea lady.

It was noted that several members had voiced their concern to the Chairman in respect of the cost of employing a part-time Refreshment Assistant. The position was currently being filled by temporary staff and had been advertised as a Grade 2 post. The Committee discussed alternative options for providing refreshments for members on States meeting days, such as the installation of vending machines, or members being required to make their own drinks. It was noted that both of these options would result in additional cleaning costs.

It was **agreed** that the additional cleaning requirements should be costed, and that no appointment to the position of Refreshment Assistant would be made until these had been considered by the Committee. It was **agreed** that the Chairman should notify

the Chief Minister and the Minister for Treasury and Resources of the position.

Matters for  
information.

A6. The Committee noted the following matters for information:

- (a) correspondence dated 19th May 2010 from the Vice Chairman to the President of the Chairmen's Committee regarding the report of the Media Working Party;
- (b) correspondence dated 19th May 2010 from the Vice Chairman to Mr. N. Wells, Director, Information Services regarding the provision of information technology for States members.
- (c) correspondence dated 19th May 2010 from the Vice Chairman to Mr. B.R. Cooper regarding the Review of the Rôles of the Crown Officers;
- (d) the Committee's ongoing work programme, with particular regard to the following:
  - (i) the Greffier of the States had arranged to meet with the Scottish Parliamentary Standards Commissioner in connexion with the Committee's review of Standing Orders 155 to 158 and the Code of Conduct for Elected Members;
  - (ii) the Committee would review the procedures for taking the appel when the quorum dropped in the States Chamber.