STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 10TH JUNE 2003

Members will have noted that in accordance with Standing Order 17(6), Projet P.33/2002: 'Jersey Community Relations Trust' is deemed to have been withdrawn as, after 12 months, no debate on it has taken place or been fixed.

This does not indicate that my Committee supports the principle of establishing this Trust, and its aims and objectives, any less than the former Committee. Indeed I can confirm that my Committee approved a revised Projet, to replace P.33/2002, in February this year. However, the obstacle to progress remains, as it always has been, the availability of funding.

The former Policy and Resources Committee lodged P.33/2002 – 'Jersey Community Relations Trust' on 12th March 2002. However, following consultation with the Finance and Economics Committee, a request to debate it was not made at that time, as a request for funding of the Trust was to be considered in April as part of the Policy and Resource Committee's 2003 revenue growth bids. Unfortunately, that bid for funding did not gain sufficient support in the Revenue Resource Allocation Workshop and, as a result, the Committee decided to explore other ways in which the funding could be raised.

Despite much effort and indications of valued but limited support from certain States Committee's and departments, the former Committee and ourselves have been unable to identify sufficient funding from inside or outside the States with which to set up and run the Trust.

However, I am in discussion with the President of the Finance and Economics Committee and, given the tremendous good will already shown, am confident that a solution will soon be found and that we can lodge a new projet soon.