

STATES OF JERSEY



STATES RESOURCE PLAN 2005 TO 2009 (P.135/2004): AMENDMENT (P.135/2004 AMD.)– COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 14th September 2004
by the Policy and Resources Committee**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Policy and Resources Committee opposes this amendment on the grounds that the additional funding required for a Hansard-type transcription service has not been assessed in the 2005 Fundamental Spending Review (FSR) process as being of sufficient priority to warrant inclusion in the 2005 revenue expenditure programme. Members will be aware of the severe financial constraints on States expenditure, and of the need to assess additional funding requests in the light of many other competing demands for States services.

During the recent FSR discussions it was noted that a new digital recording system for the States was due shortly to be introduced, and the view was expressed by Committee Presidents that it would be better to defer a decision on the funding of a Hansard-type service until the benefits of the new technology had been assessed. The Committee endorses this view, and it notes that an assessment could be carried out within a reasonably short timescale.

In the meantime, the Privileges and Procedures Committee may wish to consider its own priorities and determine the appropriate scope and level of funding for a recording and transcription service. In this connection it will be noted that the Privileges and Procedures Committee has already received significant additional funding for 2005, including £140,000 for a full transcription service for the shadow scrutiny panels.