

4.2 Deputy J.M. Maçon of St. Saviour of the Chief Minister regarding recommendations within the report of the Review of the Roles of the Crown Officers (R.28/2011):

However, before I start, as the Chief Minister is not here, can ... and you have been briefed, okay, brilliant. Can the Deputy Chief Minister advise whether he has considered, in conjunction with the Chief Minister, Recommendation 4 in the report of the Review of the Roles of the Crown Officers - R.28 of 2011 - that the Bailiff should continue to be the guardian of the constitution and the conduit through which official correspondence passes and if so, explain what processes and procedures, if any, have been put in place as a result.

Senator P.F.C. Ozouf (Deputy Chief Minister):

You, Sir, are the guardian of the constitution and the conduit through which official correspondence passes and so I can say to the Deputy no additional processes or procedures are required as a result of Recommendation 4.

4.2.1 Deputy J.M. Maçon:

Can the Minister please explain that because in the report it quite clearly explains that many informal arrangements through the Chief Minister's Department occur and the concern was raised that if the Bailiff is not privy to those communications there could be some constitutional issues that could arise in the future, and that is why they made their recommendation and therefore can I ask how the Minister holds the view that he does?

Senator P.F.C. Ozouf:

I think the Deputy is referring potentially to the operation of the official channel as opposed to whether or not the existing arrangements will continue to be as a result if the Carswell report was approved in its recommendation. The existing arrangement is that the Bailiff is the guardian of the constitution and the conduit through which official correspondence is passed. There is a protocol which has been established since the commencement of Ministerial government of handling communications between Jersey and the U.K. and between Jersey and the other countries between the Bailiff, Chief Minister, and that operation of the channel continues to work and no further changes are required providing the channel is working, which it is I am advised.