STATES OF JERSEY

SALARIES OVER £100,000: PROCESS FOR REVIEW AND SCRUTINY (P.59/2011) – AMENDMENT

STATES GREFFE

PAGE 2, PARAGRAPH (b) –

For the words "a bi-annual report" substitute the words "a quarterly report" and after the words "under this process" insert the words "with this quarterly report including, in respect of each post, the rationale for payment at this level and for the method of appointment adopted".

DEPUTY R.G. LE HÉRISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR

REPORT

While I was content to have my original proposal 'Salaries over £100,000: notification to States Assembly' fleshed out and adopt a system whereby the States did not have to approve every £100,000 plus appointment (never my intention, despite assertions by some people), I want to retain a transparency to the process and a direct political reporting relationship.

In my view, a culture became embedded in the States and was not seriously questioned by the body responsible for pay and conditions – the States Employment Board (SEB). I now have a similar concern about SEB secrecy in regard to SEB sanctioned payouts to departing senior civil servants. This is another area where greater transparency in the work of the SEB is overdue. Yet now we are placing oversight and decision making surrounding these matters in its hands.

Given the high level of public concern, the States must remain involved – not to interfere in detailed decision making, but to avoid the kind of approach that was uncritically accepted in certain quarters. While I accept the notion of an Annual Report looking at trends etc., there is a degree of self-serving in how such salaries are justified.

Financial and manpower implications

There should be little additional cost, as I am asking that the States be provided with information already extant and I am satisfied that this can be undertaken within existing resources.