

# **STATES OF JERSEY**



## **MEETINGS OF THE STATES IN 2008**

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**Presented to the States on 11th September 2007  
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee**

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**STATES GREFFE**

## **REPORT**

The Privileges and Procedures Committee is required to fix dates for States meetings for the following year no later than the end of September each year. Standing Orders 3 and 4 read as follows –

### **3 Sessions of the States**

- (1) There shall be 2 sessions of the States in each year during which they shall meet.
- (2) The 1st session shall start on the 3rd Tuesday in January and end no later than the last Tuesday in July.
- (3) The 2nd session shall start on the 2nd Tuesday in September and end no later than the 3rd Tuesday in December.

### **4 Planning days for meetings of the States**

- (1) The PPC shall, no later than the end of September in each year, present to the States a list of days for meetings of the States in the 1st and 2nd sessions in the following year.
- (2) Ordinarily, a meeting day is a Tuesday.
- (3) The list may include continuation days.

The Committee has now fixed meeting dates for 2008 as shown on the attached list.

Following the requirements of Standing Orders that the first meeting in a year is on the 3rd Tuesday of January a reasonably regular meeting programme can be scheduled for the First Session with most meetings being on a fortnightly cycle. There are nevertheless exceptions from the fortnightly cycle to avoid Easter (Easter Sunday is on 23rd March 2008), the ‘Easter’ school holidays between 7th and 21st April 2008 and the Spring Bank Holiday (school half term) week at the end of May.

PPC has decided that it is preferable to avoid planning States meetings during school holidays and it is for this reason that there is a lengthy break between the 2 meetings in April. In addition Jersey will be hosting a meeting of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Executive Committee during the week of 21st April 2008 and with the presence in the Island of a significant number of senior parliamentarians from around the Commonwealth it would be very difficult for members and officers if there was a meeting of the Assembly during that week. 2 extra continuation days (Friday 14th March and Friday 4th April) have been added to compensate in part for the longer breaks between meetings over the Easter and school holiday period.

The Second Session for 2008 is significantly constrained by the provision of Standing Order 7 which requires that the States must not meet during the 21 day period ending on the day of the senatorial elections and again during the 21 day period ending on the day of the Deputies elections (this is the first time that this new provision will have been in operation).

As a result the States cannot meet between Wednesday 24th September and Wednesday 15th October (Senatorial elections) and between Wednesday 5th November and Wednesday 26th November (Deputies elections). PPC believes that it would be unwise to plan a meeting for either Tuesday 23rd September or Tuesday 4th November as there would be no scope for a continuation day if the business lasted more than one day.

It is therefore proposed that the States meet on 9th September and the following week, 16th September, once between the elections (21st October) and once for the Budget after the elections (2nd December). As the 2nd continuation day for the first meeting in the Second Session, namely Thursday 11th September, is the date of the International Air Display the Committee is proposing that, as in 2007, the States only meet in the morning with a further continuation day, if necessary, on Friday 12th September 2008.

After the swearing in of members after the elections there will be 3 meetings of the new States for the elections of (i) the Chief Minister on Monday 8th December, (ii) Ministers/Chairmen on Thursday 11th December and (iii)

Committee/panel members on Tuesday 16th December.

# ASSEMBLY OF THE STATES OF JERSEY

## 2008 SESSIONS

### First Session

	<b>Continuation (if necessary)</b>
<b>January 15th</b>	January 16th and 17th
<b>January 29th</b>	January 30th and 31st
<b>February 12th</b>	February 13th and 14th
<b>February 26th</b>	February 27th and 28th
<b>March 11th</b>	March 12th,13th and 14th
<b>April 1st</b>	April 2nd, 3rd and 4th
<b>April 29th</b>	April 30th and May 1st
<b>May 13th</b>	May 14th and 15th
<b>June 3rd</b>	June 4th and 5th
<b>June 17th</b>	June 18th and 19th
<b>July 1st</b>	July 2nd and 3rd
<b>July 15th</b>	July 16th and 17th

### Second Session

<b>September 9th</b>	September 10th, 11th (a.m. only) and 12th
<b>September 16th</b>	September 17th and 18th
<b>October 21st</b>	October 22nd and 23rd
<b>December 2nd</b>	December 3rd and 4th (Budget)

### Second Session (new States)

<b>December 8th</b>	Election of Chief Minister
<b>December 11th</b>	Election of Ministers and Chairmen
<b>December 16th</b>	Election of members of Committees and Panels

The meeting on 15th January 2008 will commence at **10.15 a.m.** following a service of dedication at St. Helier's Parish Church at 9.30 a.m. to which all members are invited. All other meetings will begin at **9.30 a.m.**

The first meeting of 2009 will be on 20th January 2009.