

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

5th February, 2020

Proposition No. P.2019/144

Requête

Towards a more effective structure of government

AMENDMENT

Proposed by: Deputy P T R Ferbrache

Seconded by: Deputy M H Dorey

To delete Proposition 1 and substitute therefor:

- "1. To direct the Policy & Resources Committee:
 - a. To expedite the progression of work to discharge extant Resolution no I 14 on Billet d'Etat XII, 2015 and to bring proposals to the States in respect of the States' role as Employer no later than December 2021;
 - b. To continue to lead the work in train regarding the development of a framework governing the relationship between the civil service and elected members, and to bring proposals to the States no later than December 2021;
 - c. To establish a working group including political representatives of the States' Assembly & Constitution Committee (SACC) to consider whether the structure of government remains appropriate in light of the results of the 2020 General Election and to bring any proposals for a full review, if recommended by the working group, to the States no later than December 2022;
 - d. To liaise with the States' Assembly & Constitution Committee and Committee *for* Economic Development to discharge extant Resolution no. V 11 on Billet d'Etat XIX, 2018 concerning a review of the role of the Transport Licensing Authority;

- e. To liaise with the Development & Planning Authority to discharge extant Resolution VI 3 on Billet d'Etat XIII, 2019 to coordinate a review of the Development & Planning Authority and to bring any proposals for changes, agreed by the committees, arising from that review to the States no later than December 2021; and
- f. To consider, with the Scrutiny Management Committee, whether the lack of additional dedicated political scrutiny of States' finances and fiscal strategy should be addressed, through the creation of a separate Public Accounts Committee or otherwise, with any resultant review including in its scope consideration of the establishment of the office of an Auditor General and to bring any proposals agreed by the Committee arising from the review to the States no later than December 2022."

2. To delete Propositions 2 to 8.

Rule 4(3) Information

There are no substantive resource requirements arising directly from this Amendment, as it is envisaged that any work can be absorbed by existing staff – subject to reprioritising workloads – and any future resource requirements will be the subject of Budget applications at the appropriate time.

Explanatory note

It is recognised that some aspects of the requête have merit and in some instances have been agreed by the States already and are thus the subjects of extant Resolutions.

Rather than debating such issues again, it would make sense to prioritise the discharge of those extant Resolutions. Where there are no Resolutions in place, there is no reason why the Policy & Resources Committee cannot investigate the matters identified, and, where necessary, bring further proposals to the States in due course.

This approach ensures that the States focus attention on those matters in the requête that most warrant it, whilst also avoiding the need for the establishment of a States' Investigation & Advisory Committee.

Other matters can and should be revisited once the outcome of the General Election is known later in the year, and this is reflected in the Amendment, with direction being

given to the Policy & Resources Committee to establish a working group to consider the impact of the General Election in due course. For the avoidance of doubt, this review would be separate to the Registrar-General of Electors' post-implementation review required by Resolution XIII 10 on Billet d'Etat XXIV, 2019, which can be found here: <https://www.gov.gg/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=122601&p=0>