THE STATES OF DELIBERATION Of the ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

26th February 2020

Proposition No. P.2020/7

AMENDMENT

Proposed by: Deputy Neil Inder Seconded by: Deputy Heidi Soulsby

Committee for Home Affairs

<u>Sexual Offences Legislation: Supplementary Policy Matters</u>

To insert a new proposition 3, as follows;

"3. To direct the Committee for Home Affairs, as part of its ongoing review of Justice Policy, to consider the appropriateness of introducing legislation enabling pre-charge bail conditions to prevent a suspect from failing to surrender, offending on bail, interfering with prosecution witnesses or otherwise obstructing the course of justice and to report its findings to the States no later than 28 February 2021."

Rule 4(3) Information

No additional resources are envisaged to be required to enable this work to be undertaken.

Explanatory Note

States Members were recently informed of the problems caused by the absence of sufficient provision for pre-charge bail conditions in Guernsey, in the context of a case of alleged sexual assault.

While these issues aren't unique to sexual offence cases, there is a strong link to the primary subject of this policy letter, as the use of, e.g., DNA tests (which take time to complete) in order to establish an evidence base for prosecution in such cases means that it has the potential to be a recurrent challenge here.