

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

14th April, 2020

Proposition No. P.2020/60

STATES' ASSEMBLY & CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

PROPOSED POSTPONEMENT OF THE JUNE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION

AMENDMENT

Proposed by: Deputy P J Roffey

Seconded by: Deputy R.H. Graham

1. To add the following to the end of proposition 4 :-

“and that the Schedules of items of business for these meetings shall include only matters related to the Covid-19 crisis, any other urgent items submitted in accordance with Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation, the accounts, any items deferred from the meeting of the 22nd April and such other business deemed pressing by the Policy & Resources Committee, with all other items of business being postponed for consideration at those States meetings to be convened for the period after September 1st 2020”.

And

2. To replace proposition 6 with the following propositions:-

“6A. To agree that the States meeting due to take place on 22nd April 2020 shall continue to be held for the purpose of dealing with those items set out in the attached Schedule together with any items of urgent business submitted in accordance with Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation.

6B That notwithstanding the items of business for the meeting of 22nd April 2020 as set out in the attached Schedule, the business for the meetings due to take place in May, June and July shall only include matters related to the Covid-19 crisis, other items submitted under Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation, the Accounts, any items deferred from the meeting of the 22nd April and such other matters deemed to be pressing by the Policy & Resources Committee.

- 6C. To direct the States' Assembly & Constitution Committee to submit a policy letter together with suitable propositions for the States to consider at their meeting on 20th May, 2020 setting out the revised dates on which States Meetings should be convened from 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021 and the dates for making statements under the provisions of Rules 10(4)".

Explanatory note

Over the next few months the government of Guernsey will be making truly momentous decisions which will impact on the health of islanders and their future economic prospects. With this mind it is unwise to try to conduct those considerations against a backdrop of also wrestling with some major, sometimes contentious items of "business as usual". There is a need to focus only on what is urgent and pressing.

Furthermore many of the items due for debate in the months ahead have significant costs attached to them and it seems foolish to make such decisions until the full financial impact of the ongoing package of emergency financial aid on the States' financial position is clearer.

It is not intended that the proposed moratorium on non-urgent / pressing matters in the May, June and July meetings would prevent Statements, questions, elections [if required] or other regular features of States Meetings.