STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE TO THE STATES ON TUESDAY 21ST JANUARY 2003

By agreement with Mr. Mills, this statement concerns the terms under which Mr. Mills has left the employment of the States of Jersey.

I must begin by making clear that what has happened has arisen not because of any dissatisfaction with Mr. Mills' contribution - quite the reverse in fact - but because a decision was taken to create a new post of Chief Executive to the Council of Ministers that would subsume Mr. Mills' existing post of Chief Executive of the Policy and Resources Department. A panel comprising the members of the Appointments Commission and myself decided that other candidates for the new post better met all the elements of the specification for the new post than did Mr. Mills. Thus, by a decision to appoint someone else to, effectively, his post, Mr. Mills became compulsorily redundant.

It is important to emphasise that Mr. Mills' departure has arisen solely because of action initiated by the States as his employer and not for any other reason. Mr. Mills' performance in his post over the last three years has been exemplary, as I and others have been only too willing to make clear in recent weeks.

The financial settlement with Mr. Mills is as follows. First, he will receive his normal salary over a sixmonth period of notice until 30th June 2003. During this time Mr. Mills will continue to assist, as agreed, on key international dossiers. Secondly, at the end of this period, Mr. Mills will receive a redundancy payment broadly equivalent to one year's salary from that date together with the cost of an additional year's pension entitlement.

Given the circumstances and having regard in particular to the fact that Mr. Mills' contract of employment ran until 24th October 2004, my Committee considers this settlement to be fair and just. I am grateful to Mr. Mills for his agreement that this statement be made and for the professional manner in which he has dealt with the situation that has arisen. I shall finish by placing on record my thanks to him for all that he has done for Jersey over the last three years; he has made a significant and valuable contribution to our affairs.