PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

(82nd Meeting)

5th December 2017

PART A (Non-exempt)

All members were present, with the exception of Deputy J.A. Martin of St. Helier and Deputy S.M. Wickenden of St. Helier, from whom apologies had been received.

Connétable L. Norman of St. Clement, Chairman

Connétable D.W. Mezbourian of St. Lawrence

Deputy K.C. Lewis of St. Saviour (in attendance for items A1-A4 and B1-B7)

Deputy S.Y. Mézec of St. Helier

Deputy S.M. Brée of St. Clement

In attendance -

Senator I.J. Gorst, Chief Minister (in attendance for items B1 and B2 only)

Connétable J.M. Refault of St. Peter, Assistant Minister, Treasury and Resources (in attendance for items B1 and B2 only)

Dr. M. Egan, Greffier of the States

L.M. Hart, Deputy Greffier of the States

W. Millow, Assistant Greffier of the States

T. Walker, Chief Officer, Community and Constitutional Affairs (in attendance for items B1 and B2 only)

K. Hemmings, Head of Decision Support, Treasury and Resources Department (in attendance for items B1 and B2 only)

K.L. Slack, Clerk to the Privileges and Procedures Committee

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A and Part B.

Minutes.

A1. The Minutes of the meetings held on 9th November 2017 (Part A and Part B), 10th November 2017 (Part A only) and 23rd November 2017 (Part A only), having previously been circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Welcome to Deputy K.C. Lewis of St. Saviour. A2. The Chairman extended a warm welcome to Deputy K.C. Lewis of St. Saviour, who was attending his first meeting of the Committee as a member, who was neither a Minister, nor an Assistant Minister. Committee members endorsed the Chairman's welcome.

Forthcoming business for debate by the States Assembly.

465/1(210)

A3. The Committee received a list of forthcoming business for debate by the States Assembly at its meetings on 12th December 2017 and 16th January 2018 and considered whether it wished to make a formal comment on any of the Propositions that had been lodged 'au Greffe'.

The Committee decided that it did not wish to present a comment, or lodge an amendment to any of the Propositions.

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Public elections: voter turnout and registration campaign. 424/99/1(12)

A4. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. B3 of 3rd October 2017, received a verbal update from the Deputy Greffier of the States in connexion with the vote.je website and the measures being taken to increase voter registration and encourage people to vote on election day, 16th May 2018.

The Deputy Greffier notified the Committee that Advertising International had filmed 3 videos on the subjects of registering to vote, pre-poll voting and voting, which would be disseminated over the current months and uploaded onto the vote.je website. Versions of the videos had also been prepared with voice-overs in Portuguese and Polish.

The Deputy Greffier had recently met with the newly appointed interim Director of Communications – Mr. S. Hardwick – who had expressed an interest in the work that was ongoing in this regard and had offered the services of the Communications Unit to assist in circulating the relevant messages. The Deputy Greffier and staff from Advertising International were due to meet with Mr. Hardwick in order to discuss this further.

It was noted that prospective candidates had already started to contact the States Greffe and it was proposed that the letter for them should be prepared at an early juncture, to advise them to keep time free after the 16th May 2018 for their induction *et cetera*.

Highlands College would be encouraging its students to register to vote over the coming weeks and had taken leaflets to distribute. The Jersey Financial Services Commission had agreed to upload a screensaver onto their corporate computers to encourage employees to register and to vote, whilst the Chamber of Commerce would be urging employers to allow staff time out of the working day to pre-poll vote.

The Chairman indicated that the letter sent out by the Parishes to their residents in March 2018 would be reworked and would detail those members of each household that were already included on the electoral register. In advance of that letter being sent, the Parishes would publicise its imminent arrival and warn people that if they did not receive a letter, no-one in their household was included on the register. This would be reinforced by tweets being sent and information uploaded to vote.je. Advertising International was also co-ordinating with the Parishes in order to include information within the parish magazines.

The Deputy Greffier notified the Committee that, ideally, she wanted to increase the number of people accessing pre-poll voting, but would need to ensure that the Judicial Greffe was sufficiently resourced in order to facilitate this. If necessary, staff from the States Greffe could, potentially, assist by undertaking home visits. The Deputy Greffier would discuss this further with the Judicial Greffier.

The Committee thanked the Deputy Greffier for the update and congratulated her on the work that she had undertaken to date.