PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

(6th Meeting)

22nd March 2021

Meeting conducted via Microsoft Teams

PART A (Non-Exempt)

All members were present.

Deputy C.S. Alves of St. Helier, Chair Senator T.A. Vallois, Vice-Chair Connétable A.S. Crowcroft of St. Helier (apologies for B8, B9 and B10) Connétable K. Shenton-Stone of St. Martin Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat of St. Helier

Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat of St. Helier Deputy G.C.U. Guida of St. Lawrence

In attendance -

Dr. M. Egan, Greffier of the States
L.M. Hart, Deputy Greffier of the States
W. Millow, Assistant Greffier (Chamber and Members' Support)
J. O'Brien, Head of Digital and Public Engagement (Part B1 only)
L. Marsh-Smith, Principal Legislative Drafter (Part B2 only)
K. Boydens, Principal Committee and Panel Officer

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

Minutes

A1. The Minutes of the meetings held by the Committee, on 23rd February 2021 (Part A and Part B), 25th February 2021 (Part A), 3rd March 2021 (Part A), 5th March 2021 (Part A) and 10th March 2021 (Part A) having previously been circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Forthcoming business for debate by the States Assembly. A2. The Committee, with reference to Minute No. A2 of 23rd February 2021, considered forthcoming business for debate by the States Assembly.

The Committee noted a Proposition lodged by the Scrutiny Liaison Committee entitled 'Land Transaction Under Standing Order 168(3) – Office Accommodation Project, Union Street, St Helier: Deferral of Approval' (P.18/2021 re-issue). The Committee recalled that the proposition related to a Ministerial Decision by the Minister for Infrastructure which agreed a land transaction, in order to build new Government office accommodation on Union Street, St Helier. The Proposition lodged by the Scrutiny Liaison Committee asked the States to agree deferring the approval of the land transaction agreement until a Scrutiny review had been undertaken and a Proposition had been lodged by the Minister for Infrastructure seeking a States decision to be made on whether to proceed with the agreement.

On a related matter, the Committee noted that the States Greffe, Viscounts and Law Officers' Departments had been offered office space within the proposed new building, however, concerns had been raised by all three Departments regarding the maintenance of their impartial status and separation from Government. The Deputy Greffier of the States explained that if the States Greffe, Viscounts and Law Officers' Department were to remain in Morier House, it was on the condition that no refurbishment of the building would be made.

Deputy R. Labey of St. Helier suggested that if the Office Accommodation Project did not have to accommodate three additional Departments, it could potentially free up space within the new Government building for non-executive provision such as Public Hearing rooms and office space for States Members.

The Committee noted the position of the Office Accommodation Project concerning the States Greffe.