

Privileges and Procedures Committee

Political Education Awareness Sub-Committee

(1st Meeting)

29th September 2022

Part A (Non-Exempt)

All members were present with the exception of Connétable M.A Labey of Grouville, Deputy I. Gardiner of St Helier and Deputy R. Ward of St Helier from whom apologies had been received.

Deputy C.A. Alves of St Helier
Deputy C. F. Labey of Grouville and St Martin
Deputy L.K.F Stephenson of St Mary, St Ouen and St Peter
Deputy R. L. Kovacs of St Helier
Deputy M. B. Andrews of St Helier

In attendance -

Ms J. O'Brien, Head of Digital and Public Engagement
Ms M. Jehan, Education Manager
Ms K. Boydens, Principal Committee and Panel Officer
Ms K. Camara, Research and Project Officer

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A

Appointment
of Chair and
Vice-Chair.

A1. The Sub-Committee agreed to appoint Deputy Alves as Chair of the Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee agreed that it would discuss the appointment of a Vice-Chair at its next meeting.

Education
Programme.

A2. The Sub-Committee received a paper from the Education Manager on the Education Programme. The Education Manager provided the Sub-Committee with an update on the work of the Education Programme undertaken to date. The Sub-Committee noted the following actions:

- Meetings with Heads of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) had taken place to establish areas of concern and barriers to the current delivery of Political Learning in Secondary PSHE curriculum.
- A fully resourced Scheme of Learning had been created to sit alongside a new workbook for Year 5 visits.
- Alongside leading the development of the general programme for Democracy Week, nine school visits from States Members had been organised. PowerPoints had also been created for those delivering assemblies or presentations.
- Generic resource packs providing an overview of the States Assembly had been created and distributed to groups such as the Girl Guides.
- An 'active citizenship' book for primary school children was currently being developed. The Sub-Committee noted that copies would be available before the end of the year and requested that the book was circulated for its approval before publication.
- Collaboration had begun with Jersey Youth Parliament to embed States Assembly workings and promote politics amongst young people.

- A stand at Highlands' Freshers Fayre had been organised with a '5 ways to have your say' focus.

The Education Manager also presented a variety of options to implement political awareness and education into schools for the Sub-Committee to consider. This included making changes to the year 5 school visits to the Chamber, with the suggestion that the classes could visit municipality sites such as the Parish Halls and meet with Honorary Police and/or Road Committees. The Sub-Committee also suggested engaging with Youth Clubs as they took place in the evenings. This would allow young people to participate in Parish Assemblies and events.

In terms of school visits to the Chamber, the Education Manager proposed that these could be made for Year 7 students to learn at a higher level. The Sub-Committee suggested that visits for year 7 students could be undertaken in addition to year 5 particularly as parents of year 5 children were more likely to observe the proceedings in the public gallery which meant that they would also receive an education session on the States Chamber. The Head of Digital and Public Engagement ('DPE') suggested that with this in mind, school visits could ensure staged learning; year 5 students could learn the basics whilst year 7 students could be provided with a more complex session.

The Sub-Committee suggested that education should not only be for children and young people but also include adults. Deputy Labey mentioned a former group named 'Profile in Politics' which used to undertake evening workshops, tours of the States Chamber and participate in talks with the Bailiff and Attorney General. The Education Manager explained that a booklet for adults would also be produced which would contain similar information to the school booklets but on a higher level. The Sub-Committee requested to view the booklet before publication.

The Education Manager suggested that the opportunity to hold away days and corporate event offerings for employees could be considered at a later date. In terms of future priorities, the Education Manager explained that there were a number of workstreams including:

- Creating a robust training session for teachers with the initial focus on targeting delivering PSHE before developing subject-specific training.
- Attending the Curriculum Council to further build stakeholder relationships as well as an understanding of what was required in schools.
- Creating 'knowledge organisers', in line with the Jersey Curriculum, for each Key Stage as a practical resource for teachers.
- Reviewing and building relationships with Parishes to explore how they can play a part in the political learning journey.
- Creating resources in different mediums about the States Assembly for all year groups.

Engagement during election period.

A3. The Sub-Committee discussed a number of events that had taken place during the election period such as the Hustings and Question Time. The Head of DPE explained the need to try different strategies and events from previous years with the aim of raising voter engagement. The Sub-Committee discussed what had worked well, what the challenges had been and key learnings to take forward for the next election. The Head of DPE encouraged Members to provide any feedback to the team as early as possible following the election.

Jersey Youth Parliament.

A4. The Sub-Committee received a paper on the Jersey Youth Parliament ('JYP') and considered how to develop the way in which the JYP could be facilitated in order to build on the relationship with the States Greffe and States Assembly.

The Sub-Committee considered the benefit of the JYP having a deeper connection with Scrutiny Panels and engaging with their workstreams. It was also considered that visits to Westminster and other parliamentary buildings/site may be of benefit.

The Education Manager informed the Sub-Committee that she had discussed with the JYP some opportunities for further engagement with the States Assembly such as, participating in written petitions and presenting to Ministers, Scrutiny Panels, and the wider Assembly.

Terms of
Reference.

A5. The Sub-Committee requested that its Terms of Reference was circulated on Teams for review.

Future
Meetings.

A6. The Sub-Committee agreed that the next meeting would take place on 27th October at 2pm in the Le Capelain Room. The Sub-Committee considered its regular slot for future meetings and requested a list of proposed monthly dates to be confirmed at the next Sub-Committee meeting.