STATES OF JERSEY

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MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT: ESTABLISHMENT OF SCRUTINY PANELS AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (P.79/2003) – COMMENTS

Presented to the States on 8th July 2003 by the Finance and Economics Committee

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The financial and manpower implications of the Report and Proposition of the Privileges and Procedures Committee are significant in that an additional 8.5 posts and additional funding of £1,455,000 will be required.

These are the direct costs, however there are likely to be indirect costs within Committees, and further implied costs associated with the establishment of the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General.

The Committee concurs with the sentiments of the report in that effective scrutiny should provide value for money if it leads to better decision-making and efficient government.

The Finance and Economics Committee believes that the level of funding allocated for the Scrutiny Panels and Public Accounts Committee will need to be assessed after a more accurate estimate of costs arises from the trial shadow scrutiny implementation.

The Committee agrees with the Privileges and Procedures Committee that the associated growth funding will be considered within the 2005 Fundamental Spending Review prioritisation process.