

STATES OF JERSEY



AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS – STATEMENTS

Lodged au Greffe on 20th October 2023
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee
Earliest date for debate: 28th November 2023

STATES GREFFE

PROPOSITION

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion to make the following amendments to the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey, with immediate effect –

1. Standing Order 68 (Statement on a matter of official responsibility)

For paragraphs (1) and (2) substitute the following –

- “(1) When, in accordance with standing order 17(3), a member of the States has given notice of his or her intention to make a statement on a matter of official responsibility, he or she shall give the text of the statement to the Greffier no later than 5 p.m. on the working day preceding the day the statement is to be made and the Greffier shall distribute the text as soon as possible.
- (2) Where the Bailiff has granted a person leave to make a statement on a matter of official responsibility in accordance with standing order 17(5), the person shall give the text of the statement to the Greffier as soon as practicable and the Greffier shall distribute the text as soon as possible.”

PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

REPORT

The Privileges and Procedures Committee (PPC) has lodged this proposition which, if adopted, would implement an amendment to Standing Orders relating to statements.

Statement on a matter of official responsibility

This amendment would amend Standing Order 68. If adopted, it would be a requirement to provide the text of an official statement by 5:00pm the day before the statement is to be made; unless the Bailiff had given leave for a statement to be made without the requisite notice having been given – in which case the member concerned would have to provide the text of the statement as soon as practicable.

Frequently it has been the case that statements are circulated just before (or even after) they are made which does not allow members any time to consider what is being said and formulate questions. The Committee believes that having early sight of the statement, the day before it is made, will give members sufficient time to consider any follow-up questions.

Financial and staffing implications

There are no financial and staffing implications arising from the adoption of this proposition.