

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS
BY DEPUTY M. TADIER OF ST. BRELADE
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 28TH JUNE 2016**

Question

With regard to the proposition P.54/2016 'Bailiff of Jersey: cessation of dual role and the appointment of an elected Speaker of the States', does the dual role of the Bailiff of Jersey as both Chief Justice and speaker of Jersey's legislature comply with international parliamentary best practice and would a decision to retain the current position and not to implement a separation of powers impact upon Jersey's international reputation?

Answer

The longstanding and unique constitutional position of the Bailiff is not simply a question of international parliamentary best practice. While comparisons with international best practice may be helpful, they must be seen in the light of what is appropriate for Jersey within the context of our own parliamentary system, our unique constitutional position and reflect the views of the public of Jersey.

In my view, there is no substantial evidence that the current position has an impact on Jersey's international reputation.