

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE
BY DEPUTY M. TADIER OF ST. BRELADE
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2017**

Question

What plans, if any, does the Privileges and Procedures Committee have to address any under-representation of constituents in Parishes such as St. Helier, St. Clement and Grouville? Is it the Committee's assessment that such disparities are unacceptable and will the Committee be lodging any proposals to address any unfairness before the elections in May 2018?

Answer

PPC's work since 2015 to identify a way of reforming the composition of the States Assembly to provide for a fairer distribution of voters between electoral districts which would command a consensus in the Assembly is set out in its comments to the proposition entitled 'Composition and Election of the States Assembly' (P.133/2016) lodged by Deputy Andrew Lewis. Although the Assembly adopted the proposition, as amended, the Assembly did not adopt the law changes necessary to bring the new electoral arrangements into force in time for the next election. The Council of Europe Venice Commission's Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters advises that the "*fundamental elements of electoral law ... should not be open to amendment less than one year before an election*". Consequently, the Committee has no plans to bring forward any further proposals for reform ahead of the election.