

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE
BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2017**

Question

Will the Chairman advise whether any consideration has been given to requiring election candidates or elected members of the States of Jersey to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and, if not, why not?

Answer

The States of Jersey Law 2005 provides that a person shall be disqualified for election as a Senator or Deputy if, within the 7 years immediately preceding the date of their election, they have been convicted, whether in Jersey or elsewhere, of any offence and ordered to be imprisoned for a period of not less than three months, without the option of a fine. No similar statutory provision exists in respect of Connétables but they are subject to the supervisory jurisdiction of the Royal Court and the view of the Comité de Connétables is that the legal provision regarding disqualification for election as Connétable are at least equivalent to those for election as Senator or Deputy (P.138/2016 Com.). Following the Assembly's agreement to P.138/2016 PPC is preparing a draft Law which would bring into alignment the statutory bases for disqualification for election applying to Connétables and Senators and Deputies. The Committee has not recently considered other proposals to change the law on disqualification for election and is not aware of any concerns having been raised about States Members not being having undergone a DBS check.