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3 Senator S.Y. Mézec of the Chairman, Privileges and Procedures Committee regarding the progress made by the working party established to examine the role of the Bailiff: [OQ.2/2019]

Will the chairman update the Assembly on the progress made by the working party established to examine the dual role of the Bailiff and will he explain when he anticipates this work will culminate in a proposition to be brought before the Assembly?

Deputy R. Labey of St. Helier (Chairman, Privileges and Procedures Committee):

The working party has one more meeting this week. I anticipate a further meeting of the working party. We have proposals being drafted and nearing completion, which will then go to P.P.C. and P.P.C. will bring the resulting proposition, I think and hope, certainly in quarter one, so by March, I believe.

3.3.1 Senator S.Y. Mézec:

Obviously, the time is ticking on this if we wish to have an elected Speaker upon the retirement of the current Speaker. Would the chairman be able to indicate exactly when the deadline is for getting legislation passed and approved by the Privy Council so that that process can be dealt with by the end of this year?

Deputy R. Labey:

I will have to advise the Senator of the exact date and I am happy to do that. We are, on that working party, extremely cognisant of the timeline and we are working as fast as we can.

3.3.2 Senator S.Y. Mézec:

Final supplementary question, Sir. The chairman will be aware that a proposition was brought to the Assembly by Senator Gorst, a proposition which, I believe, ticked all the boxes and, I believe personally, it is difficult to find a better proposition from that. Could the chairman give any sort of indication if the proposition that the working party will be proposing has any differences to that proposition or whether it is based on the good work that was done by Senator Gorst?

Deputy R. Labey:

We are looking at that proposition, as well as one that might have differences to it. I do not want to jump the gun on this for the Senator, if you will forgive me, because whatever the working party decides it then has to go to the full P.P.C., who then bring the resulting proposition. I think it would be wrong for me to speculate on what the working party might recommend and then what P.P.C. might recommend.