

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 29th JANUARY 2019**

Question

Notwithstanding the response of the Chairman of the Privileges and Procedures Committee to Written Question 265/2018, and in light of the results of the ComRes survey and the recommendations of the C.P.A. Election Observers Mission on the conduct of the last elections, will the Chief Minister advise what additional support (including financial support) he will put in place, if any, to ensure the establishment and testing of an electronic register (that would allow for voters both to register their votes at any polling station and to vote electronically) in time for the 2022 public elections?

Answer

The priority remains a focus on the establishment of requisite legislation and technology to enable automatic voter registration, and in turn, the potential to register votes at any polling station. There is no current intention to implement electronic voting in time for 2022, given the importance of ensuring that the registration system works properly and is secure. However, the Privileges and Procedures Committee is ultimately responsible for the implementation of such a system.

Delivery of this priority rests, in part, on the delivery of the People Directory and associated eGov infrastructure. I am pleased to report that these successfully “went live” last week (22 January). This enables a continuation of the work required to deliver an electronic register. I expect officers to be provided with a clear funding proposal and plan in the coming months which will deliver these actions within the timescales set out.