

STATES OF JERSEY



STATES EMPLOYEES: POLITICAL ACTIVITIES – RECLASSIFICATION OF POLITICALLY INELIGIBLE POST

**Presented to the States on 6th October 2008
by the Chief Minister**

STATES GREFFE

REPORT

1. Under the Employment of States of Jersey Employees (Amendment) (Jersey) Regulations 2007, public employee posts are classified as either “politically eligible” or “politically ineligible.” Politically eligible postholders may take part in political activities such as canvassing for candidates for election to the States, standing for election, etc; politically ineligible postholders may not.
2. Under the Regulations, Civil Service posts in grades 1 to 11 are classified as politically eligible; those in grades 12 and above are classified as politically ineligible.
3. However, Article 32 of the Regulations enables the States Employment Board to reclassify a politically ineligible post as politically eligible where it has received an application from the post-holder and it is satisfied that, in relation to the following criteria, reclassifying “will not inhibit, or appear to inhibit, loyal and effective service to a Minister or to the States” –
 - (a) the nature of the information to which the States’ employee has access;
 - (b) the degree to which the States’ employee is involved in the determination or deliberation of policy at a ministerial level;
 - (c) the extent, if any, to which the position requires the holder to regularly speak to members of the public on behalf of a Minister or a department or unit of administration; and
 - (d) the degree of contact that the States’ employee has with elected members of the States.
4. Where the Board decides to reclassify a post as politically eligible, the Chief Minister is required under Article 32 to notify the States at the next sitting of the Assembly after the reclassification is made.
5. The postholder of the post of Manager, Hotel and Catering Services for the Health and Social Services department (grade 13), has asked that his post be reclassified as politically eligible. His application is supported by the Chief Officer of his department.
6. The Board, having taken cognisance of the criteria set out in Article 32 of the Regulations (set out in paragraph 3 above), and being assured that the postholder has no political, policy or strategic involvement, decided to reclassify the post as politically eligible.