

**STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES  
COMMITTEE TO THE STATES ON TUESDAY 21ST JANUARY 2003**

I should like to make a statement about the recruitment and selection of the new Chief Executive to the Council of Ministers and Head of Public Services and, following speculation in the local media and in other places, to clarify, as far as is legally possible, the circumstances surrounding Mr. Mills' stepping back from the post of Chief Executive to the Policy and Resources Committee.

Members will be aware from recent news items in the media, and I am sure from other sources, that the vigorous and very searching recruitment and selection process for this most important senior appointment, which began late last October, was concluded at the end of last week, when the final four, highly able, short listed candidates were interviewed.

I am very pleased indeed to be able to confirm that, while recognising that this new appointment is subject to approval by the States, for which a Projet will be lodged au Greffe shortly, a unanimous decision of the Jersey Appointment Commission's selection panel has led to the excellent, first choice candidate being offered the position and to contractual discussions now being in train with that individual. Although final dates cannot of course yet be confirmed, it is expected that the new Chief Executive will be able to take up his post within five to six months of the States giving their approval and I am looking forward to introducing him to Members at the first opportunity.

I would at this point like to pay significant tribute to the work of the Jersey Appointments Commission, its Chairman in particular and its professional advisers. I think it fair to say that I have never been part of a recruitment and selection process that was so well organised, comprehensive and incisive. All panel members and advisers are to be congratulated for the huge amount of work they put into this process and I am absolutely sure that the very broad experience of the team as a whole has led to, what I am equally sure will be, an outstandingly successful appointment.