

7. Minister for Planning and Environment regarding the appointment of the Assistant Minister

7.1 Senator F.E. Cohen (The Minister for Planning and Environment):

Having obtained the approval of the Chief Minister, I am advising the States that I have appointed the Deputy of Trinity as the new Assistant Minister for Planning and Environment to fill the vacancy arising from the retirement from the States of Mr. Richard Dupré, the former Constable of St. John. The Deputy of Trinity has been a member of the Planning Applications Panel for the past year and I have great confidence in her abilities. I would like to place on record my thanks to Mr. Richard Dupré, the former Assistant Minister, for his support and hard work and, in particular, for chairing the Planning Applications Panel through the period of its transformation to meeting in public. Thank you.

The Deputy Bailiff:

I should just remind Members that the result of that is that the Deputy of Trinity ceases to be a Member of the relevant Scrutiny Panel under Standing Orders.

7.1.1 Deputy A.E. Pryke of Trinity:

I would just like to thank the Minister for inviting me to be his Assistant Minister and for the confidence he has in me and I look forward to working with him and the department. Sir, it certainly will be different from being involved with Scrutiny over the last year and I would like to thank the Members and especially the officers of the Education and Home Affairs Panel under the chair of the Deputy of St. Martin and also the member of the Sub-Panel that were formed for the Overdale and dairy review. It has been an interesting and challenging year but one that I have thoroughly enjoyed. It has been a pleasure working with all the Panels. I look forward to this new area of responsibility and the new challenge that lies ahead. Thank you, Sir.

7.1.2 The Deputy of St. Martin:

I can assure you I have not seen the Deputy of Trinity's notes but I would like to have a few words of appreciation to the Deputy, Sir. Deputy Pryke, the Deputy of Trinity, has been a valued, conscientious and hard-working member of the Social Affairs Panel and more lately of the Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel. We are particularly grateful for the manner in which she chaired - indeed the professional and expert manner in which she chaired - the Overdale review. The Deputy of Trinity will be sorely missed by our Panel but, indeed, I think the Scrutiny overall cannot afford to lose members of her calibre. Sir, we wish her well in her new endeavours and we assure her that we would be delighted to have her back should she find the grass is not quite as green on the ministerial benches. [Laughter]. Thank you, Sir.

The Deputy Bailiff:

Any questions arising from that? No?