

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

STATES' ASSEMBLY AND CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Election Observer Mission, General Election 2025

The States are asked to decide: -

Whether, after consideration of the policy letter entitled Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Election Observation Mission 2025 dated 18th March 2025, they are of the opinion:-

1. To note the impending appointment of up to nine Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Election Observers for the 2025 General Election.

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
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THE STATES' ASSEMBLY AND CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION: ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSION
2025

The Presiding Officer
States of Guernsey
Royal Court House
St Peter Port
18th March 2025

Dear Sir

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) regularly carries out and supports election observation work across the Commonwealth in order to evaluate the extent to which they comply with international obligations¹. Information is gathered about all the processes involved and the legislative framework underpinning the election. This allows an objective assessment to be made, and recommendations to be provided for further improvements which can be made to future elections.
- 1.2 The CPA carried out a virtual Election Mission for the October 2020 General Election. The intention had been for a full observation mission to be carried out, but Covid restrictions meant that this was not possible. Even though the observers were unable to travel to Guernsey, they nevertheless provided valuable feedback² which has helped to inform the arrangements for this year's General Election.
- 1.3 It is good practice for successive elections to be observed, as this allows the CPA to work in tandem with the relevant jurisdiction to review and build upon advice from previous elections.
- 1.4 The 2025 General Election will be the first opportunity for a CPA Election Mission to observe an island-wide election in person. Therefore, pursuant to Article (72)B

¹ This is set out in the [UK CPA handbook for Election Observation Missions](#)

² [Guernsey General Election, October 2020](#). CPA BIMIR Election Expert Mission Final report.

of the Reform (Guernsey) Law, 1948,³ and after consultation with the Policy & Resources Committee, the Committee has authorised the appointment of up to nine CPA Election observers in respect of the 2025 General Election in June.

2 Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Election Expert Observer Mission – General Election 2025

- 2.1 It is anticipated that the cost of the Election Observation Mission will be approximately £50k, and it is anticipated that this cost can be met from within the existing Election budget, which, to date, is showing an underspend against forecast.
- 2.2 The Committee believes that the investment is justified, as the observers will provide invaluable feedback on the island-wide General Election, especially as this will be the first time it can be observed in person. Therefore, the Committee has authorised the appointment of a mission of up to nine CPA observers, and asks the Assembly to note the appointment in accordance with section 72B of the Reform Law.

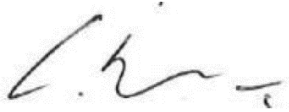
3 Compliance with Rule 4

- 3.1 In accordance with Rule 4(1):
- a) The proposition contributes to the States’ objectives and policy plans as set in the Government’s Work plan, which identified the 2025 General Election as an essential, priority workstream for this political term.
 - b) In preparing the proposition, consultation has been undertaken with the Registrar-General of Electors and the Policy & Resources Committee.
 - c) The proposition has been submitted to His Majesty’s Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.
 - d) The budget for the CPA Election Observation Mission will be approximately £50,000.
- 3.2 In accordance with Rule 4(2):
- a) The proposition relates to the duties of the Committee to advise the States and to develop and implement policies in relation to elections of the office of People’s Deputy.

³ [The Reform \(Guernsey\) Law 1948](#)

b) The proposition has the unanimous support of the Committee.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. P. Meerveld', written in a cursive style.

C P Meerveld
President

G A St Pier
Vice President

Y Burford
S P Fairclough
L J McKenna