

**THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY**

20th May, 2025

Proposition No. P.2026/36

Election of a member of the Policy & Resources Committee

Motion under Article 7(1) of the Reform (Guernsey) Law, 1948

Proposed by: Deputy M Helyar

Seconded by: Deputy G Collins

To vary Rule 16(3) and Rule 16(5) of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation, for the purposes of the current meeting of the States only, to the extent necessary to permit the election of a member of the Policy & Resources Committee to be carried out by recorded ballot provided that the record:

- i) shall show the name of each Member voting and the candidate for whom said Member voted; and
- ii) shall be included in the Official Report of the States (Hansard).

Rule 4(1) Information

- a) The motion contributes to the States' objectives and policy plans by seeking to ensure openness, accountability and public confidence in the election of a member of the States' Senior Committee.
- b) In preparing this amendment the remaining members of the Policy & Resources Committee have been provided with a draft of this motion.
- c) The amendment has been submitted to His Majesty's Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.
- d) There are not considered to be any direct financial implications for the States of Guernsey.
- e) Drafting advice was sought from the States' Greffier.

Explanatory Note

1. The States of Deliberation's procedures are set out by the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and under Article 7(1) of the Reform (Guernsey) Law, 1948 the States of Deliberation may by resolution "vary, revoke or suspend such Rules or any of them". This is a motion under Article 7(1) which seeks, for the purposes of the current meeting only, to disapply the requirement for a secret ballot in the election of a member of the Policy & Resources Committee and to require that the election be conducted by open, recorded vote.
2. The election of members of the Policy & Resources Committee is governed by Rule 16(3) and 16(5) of the Rules of Procedure. Such elections are already treated differently from elections of members of other States' Committees in recognition of the Policy & Resources Committee's position as the Senior Committee. In circumstances where the States may be asked to elect to that office a person who is on bail in respect of serious criminal matters, it would be a serious error of judgment and contrary to the public interest for Members to be able to support such a candidature under cover of secrecy.
3. The purpose of the motion is therefore to ensure that, if any Member is prepared to support such a candidature, that support is given openly and is capable of public scrutiny and accountability. The motion is limited to the current meeting only and does not seek to make any permanent amendment to the Rules of Procedure.
4. The recorded ballot shall be by way of appel nominal as SEV cannot accommodate a recorded vote of this nature. Rule 26D notes that, should SEV be unavailable for a vote, the States shall vote by appel nominal. Members shall state the name of the Deputy for whom they wish to cast their vote upon being called to do so by the States' Greffier.