

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

STATES' ASSEMBLY & CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

REVIEW OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

The States are asked to decide:-

Whether, after consideration of the policy letter entitled 'Review of the Rules of Procedure and Other Matters' dated 1st November, they are of the opinion:-

1. To delete Rule 24(2) and amend Rule 24(1) of the Rules of Procedure to read: *"Any Member who intends to lay before the States a secondary proposition (other than one proposed on behalf of the Committee submitting the original proposal or one proposed on behalf of requérants in the case of a requête) shall submit it to the Greffier not later than 15.00 on the day preceding the fifth clear day before the meeting (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays) and it must state the names of the proposer and seconder, and it can include a brief explanatory note. A supporting report may be attached to the secondary proposition at the time of submission. As soon as possible thereafter, the Greffier shall cause it to be published on the States' website and in such other form as he or she shall determine and shall circulate it simultaneously to the Presiding Officer and all Members of the States. The Greffier shall provide a paper copy of each secondary proposition, whenever it may have been circulated to him or her, at the start of each Meeting or as soon as practicable if he or she receives it during the Meeting.*
2. To amend Rule 26B(2) of the Rules of Procedure to read: *"On the announcement of a vote taken otherwise than using the electronic voting system, any Member may challenge the accuracy thereof and thereupon a fresh division shall take place. Such further division cannot be challenged."*
3. To amend the note to Schedule 2 of the Rules of Procedure to read: *"Throughout this form, in addition to those matters which relate directly to you, you are also required to declare any interests of which you are aware which relate to a close family member, or any relative living in the common household.*

Close family comprises: spouse or domestic partner; grandparents; grandchildren; parents; siblings; children both dependent and non-dependent; children of a common law spouse; spouse or domestic partner of a child; corresponding in-laws and step relatives; parent-in-law; and brother- and sister-in law."

4. To agree that the term “direct or special interest” should be replaced by the terms:

Disclosable Financial Interest
Other Disclosable Interest and
Potentially Disclosable Interest

5. If Proposition 4 is agreed, to amend Rule 49 of the Rules of Procedure to read:
“49(1) A Member of a Committee who (or whose close family member, or any relative living in the common household or parties other than those listed whom public perception may deem to be related parties, or any company in which the Member has a controlling interest on the Member’s own or their behalf of which a Member is aware) has a disclosable interest in the business under consideration by the Committee must not participate in either discussion or voting thereon and must immediately declare the interest and withdraw from the meeting during the discussion and voting on the matter concerned.

(2) In the preceding paragraph ‘close family’ comprises: spouse or domestic partner; grandparents; grandchildren; parents; siblings; children both dependent and non-dependent; children of a common law spouse; spouse or domestic partner of a child; corresponding in-laws and step relatives; parent-in-law; and brother-and sister-in law.”

6. If Proposition 4 is not agreed, to amend Rule 49 of the Rules of Procedure to read:
49(1) A Member of a Committee who (or whose close family member, or any relative living in the common household or parties other than those listed whom public perception may deem to be related parties, or any company in which the Member has a controlling interest on the Member’s own or their behalf of which a member is aware) has a direct or special interest in the business under consideration by the Committee must not participate in either discussion or voting thereon and must immediately declare the interest and withdraw from the meeting during the discussion and voting on the matter concerned.

(2) In the preceding paragraph ‘close family’ comprises: spouse or domestic partner; grandparents; grandchildren; parents; siblings; children both dependent and non-dependent; children of a common law spouse; spouse or domestic partner of a child; corresponding in-laws and step relatives; parent-in-law; and brother-and sister-in law.”

7. To rescind Resolution XIV 1 (aa) on Billet d’Etat XXIII, 2018.

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

STATES' ASSEMBLY & CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

REVIEW OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Presiding Officer
States of Guernsey
Royal Court House
St Peter Port

1st November 2024

Dear Sir

1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The States' Assembly & Constitution Committee (SACC) is responsible for periodic reviews of the States' Rules of Procedure.
- 1.2 This policy letter seeks to discharge this responsibility by considering a number of Rules that are the subject of extant States' Resolutions, or that have come to the Committee's attention as needing amendment for a number of reasons, including feedback from Members of the Assembly.
- 1.3 As a result, this policy letter recommends changes to Rules 24 (time frame for submission of amendments); 26B (2) (calls for a fresh division); and 49 (Members' declarations of direct or special interest during Committee meetings).

2 Introduction

- 2.1 The Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees (the Rules) are split into two parts. Section One, Rules of Procedure, concerns procedures to be followed before and during States' meetings generally, whilst Section Two, Committee Rules, governs the operation of Committees of the States.
- 2.2 It is part of SACC's mandate to advise the States and to develop and implement policies in relation to, *inter alia*:

- The procedures and practices of the States of Deliberation and committees of the States; and
- The practical functioning of the States of Deliberation and the States of Election.

2.3 In practice, this includes periodically reviewing the Rules of Procedure, in consultation with the Presiding Officer and the States' Greffier, and, where necessary, recommending changes.

2.4 Throughout this political term, the Committee has been considering how the Rules of Procedure might be able to be revised in order to improve Parliamentary and Committee proceedings. The States have already agreed changes to Rules 10-15, pertaining to statements and questions¹.

2.5 In progressing this work stream, the Committee has noted instances where seeming anomalies have arisen because of other changes, such as the introduction of electronic voting. It has also listened to feedback from Members who have ideas about how changes to the Rules might be of assistance.

2.6 Notwithstanding its desire to improve the Rules of Procedure, the Committee has had to be cognisant of resources, both in terms of officer time to develop proposals and also in respect of the debating time that will ensue in the Assembly when the resultant policy letter is debated.

2.7 Consequently, the Committee has focused on amendments to the Rules that it considers the most likely to improve the efficiency of meetings of the Assembly or of States' Committees, or that will contribute to good governance generally.

2.8 This policy letter deals with the suggested changes to Rules pertaining to meetings of the Assembly and also with those regarding the operation of States' Committees.

3 Rule 24 – Secondary propositions, amendments, sursis, etc.

3.1 Rule 24 deals with all secondary propositions, and includes the time frames for their submission. The Committee's focus is on Rule 24(1) which, aside from some exceptions set out in Rule 24(2), provides for amendments to be submitted at any time, including after the debate in question has started.

¹ Billet d'Etat III, 2023

- 3.2 The Committee is concerned that during the current political term in particular, there has been a large number of amendments submitted either very close to the start of the relevant debate or even during the debate, with Members drafting amendments during recesses or, in some instances, while debate is ongoing.
- 3.3 This last-minute approach is, the Committee feels, detrimental to constructive debate and undermines the Assembly's decision-making process. Consultation with the Committee which has submitted the propositions in question, which used to be commonplace, has been seen less in recent times, which means that Committees are being forced to respond to amendments that they have not had the opportunity to consider in detail, and therefore may not be able, at such short notice, to articulate some of the potential implications of agreeing the amendments in question.
- 3.4 Additionally, late amendments may have far reaching consequences on which the public and/or stakeholders, have very little time or indeed no time at all to comment or engage. The Committee is of the view that this can lead to the public being disenfranchised from the democratic process, and a debate which lacks consideration of the wider implications of an amendment.
- 3.5 The current Rules do nothing to discourage such behaviour because, with some exceptions, they allow amendments to be submitted at any time. The Committee is of the opinion that more collaboration between political colleagues could help to resolve concerns and issues at an early stage, thereby reducing the need for amendments whilst also ensuring that Committees are more sighted on potential amendments to their proposals and therefore in a position to respond more effectively. This, in turn, ensures a more fully informed debate, which should lead to better decision-making. It should also reduce the length of States' debates.
- 3.6 In order to ensure that the Rules help to facilitate such collaboration, the Committee is proposing that Rules 24(1) and 24(2) should effectively be merged to provide that, with the exception of amendments submitted by the Committee whose policy letter is under debate, all amendments should have to be submitted no later than 3pm on the day preceding the fifth clear day before the commencement of the States' meeting at which the policy letter in question is scheduled to be debated.
- 3.7 In practice, this would involve deleting Rule 24(2) and redrafting Rule 24(1) to read as follows:

Any Member who intends to lay before the States a secondary proposition (other than one proposed on behalf of the Committee submitting the original proposal or one proposed on behalf of requérants in the case of a requête) shall submit it to the Greffier not later than 15.00 on the day preceding the fifth clear day before the meeting (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays). A secondary

proposition proposed on behalf of the Committee submitting the original proposal, or requérants in the case of a requête, may be submitted at any time. Secondary propositions must state the names of the proposer and seconder, and a brief explanatory note may be included. A supporting report may be attached to the secondary proposition at the time of submission. As soon as possible thereafter, the Greffier shall cause it to be published on the States' website and in such other form as he or she shall determine and shall circulate it simultaneously to the Presiding Officer and all Members of the States. The Greffier shall provide a paper copy of each secondary proposition, whenever it may have been circulated to him or her, at the start of each Meeting or as soon as practicable if he or she receives it during the Meeting.

- 3.8 The following sections of Rule 24 would then have to be renumbered.
- 3.9 Using the 2024 meeting dates and associated submission dates, the shortest period between submission and the commencement of a States' meeting is 37 days, with the majority exceeding 40 days. Assuming a similar pattern for the 2025 political term, this would allow ample time for Members to prepare and submit amendments in advance of debate, and also for Committees to consider how they might wish to respond.
- 3.10 Consequently, the Committee is recommending this change in the interests of good governance and in order to facilitate more focused and informed debate, with Committees having the opportunity to provide considered responses to amendments, rather than being forced to react at short notice, potentially during an ongoing debate.

4 Rule 26B(2)

- 4.1 Rule 26B(2) of the States' Rules of Procedure reads as follows:

On the announcement of the result of a division, any Member may challenge the accuracy thereof and thereupon a fresh division shall take place. Such further division cannot be challenged.

- 4.2 Rule 26B(2) pre-dates the introduction of Simultaneous Electronic Voting (SEV). It is explicit that its purpose is to "challenge the accuracy" of a vote count, as it is possible that the Clerk could make a mistake and incorrectly record a vote.
- 4.3 It has, however, been requested since the introduction of SEV on occasions where, for example, Members have been absent during a vote and have returned to the chamber shortly afterwards. Clearly it would be possible for a close result to be changed by including additional Members in the vote but this is not the purpose of the Rule in question and it is Members' responsibility to ensure they anticipate divisions and prepare for them.

- 4.4 When the accuracy of the vote relies on a person's intervention, it makes sense to have a mechanism to question or check it. However, there is no such imperative with SEV, particularly as the system has now been thoroughly tried and tested, having been used to record thousands of divisions, with no challenges to its accuracy.
- 4.5 Furthermore, one of the reasons for the introduction of SEV was that it meant every Member would vote without knowing how their political colleagues were voting. If electronic votes can be re-run, there is a risk that this principle could be eroded, thereby reducing one of the anticipated benefits of SEV.
- 4.6 In its discussions on the matter, the Committee noted that the possibility of an appeal nominal remains (for example, in the event of a technological failure). Consequently, it concluded that it would not be helpful to delete the Rule in question but rather that it would benefit from being amended to reflect the changes that have occurred with the successful introduction of SEV, meaning that for the majority of votes human counting error is simply not possible.
- 4.7 The Committee therefore concluded that the addition of the words *"taken otherwise than using the electronic voting system"* would be sufficient to ensure that second divisions were only possible under the Rules when SEV had not been used.
- 4.8 The revised Rule would therefore read as follows, with the suggested new text in bold:

*"On the announcement of a vote **taken otherwise than using the electronic voting system**, any Member may challenge the accuracy thereof and thereupon a fresh division shall take place. Such further division cannot be challenged.*

5 Rule 49 – Declaration of Interest at Committee Meetings

- 5.1 Rule 49 sits within Section Two of the Rules of Procedure, and it needs to be read in conjunction with Rule 29, which sets out the requirement for Members to declare their interests. These are set out in Schedule 2 to the Rules and currently comprise the following categories:

Employment
Directorships
Partnerships
Offices Held
Self-Employment and any other Consultancy, Profession, Trade, Vocation or other work not declared in 1-4 above
Property situated in the Bailiwick
Company Shareholdings

Trusts (excluding Professional Trusteeships)
Payments received for Public Speaking
Other Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Received
Any Other Interests

- 5.2 At their meeting held on 26th October 2018², the States resolved as follows:

“To direct the States’ Assembly & Constitution Committee to review the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees relating to the matter of a direct or special interest and return to the States with proposals for amending the Rules by incorporation of a suitable definition of the phrase ‘direct or special interest.’”

- 5.3 The relevant part of Rule 49 is paragraph(1), which provides that:

“A Member of a Committee who (or whose spouse, or any of whose infant children or any company in which the Member has a controlling interest on the Member’s own or their behalf) has a direct or special interest in the business under consideration by the Committee must not participate in either discussion or voting thereon and must immediately declare the interest and withdraw from the meeting during the discussion and voting on the matter concerned.”

- 5.4 Rule 49(1) applies to Members in Committee meetings and not in meetings of the Assembly. Declarations of direct or special interest during meetings of the Assembly are covered by Rule 29, which has not generated the amount of discussion among Members that Rule 49 has, although it follows that any definition of “direct or special interest” would apply to each reference throughout the Rules of Procedure.
- 5.5 It is, however, relevant that the States are in the process of transitioning to preparing annual accounts in line with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS), which will result in a robust and tested accounting framework.
- 5.6 It has been identified that, as part of the changes brought about by the move to the IPSAS framework, additional disclosures will be required in the 2024 accounts in respect of Related Party Transactions. Such additional disclosures are required to comply with IPSAS 20, Related Party Disclosures, and widen the parties that need to be considered for the disclosures.

² Billet d’Etat XXIII, 2018

5.7 IPSAS adds the requirement to disclose in the accounts related party transactions in respect of:

- A wider definition of parties considered to be close family.
- Entities in which any of the parties considered to be related parties hold an interest.
- Requirement to disclose whether or not transactions are on an arm's-length basis and where the terms and conditions differ from those that would be agreed with an unrelated party.

5.8 The method of collecting this information is the annual request, in January each year, for Members, non-States Members and key management requesting information about any potential related parties and any transactions with those parties.

5.9 Whilst this is a separate matter from Members' annual returns, it would make sense for those returns to mirror the IPSAS requirements, as this would create more clarity around returns, rather than having different criteria for different returns.

5.10 Consequently, the Committee is recommending that additional guidance be added to Schedule 2 to the Rules of Procedure to reflect the IPSAS requirements, by amending the explanatory notes to make it clear that wider family members' interests need to be considered when Members are making their annual Declarations of Interest.

5.11 At present, Schedule 2 contains the heading "Applicability of the Declaration to interests of the Member's spouse, co-habiting partner and infant children". It is recommended that this be changed to: "Applicability of the Declaration to interests of the Member's wider family", and that the note itself should read:

"Throughout this form, in addition to those matters which relate directly to you, you are also required to declare any interests of which you are aware which relate to a close family member, or any relative living in the common household.

Close family comprises: spouse or domestic partner; grandparents; grandchildren; parents; siblings; children both dependent and non-dependent; children of a common law spouse; spouse or domestic partner of a child; corresponding in-laws and step relatives; parents-in-law; and brothers- and sisters-in law."

5.12 Assuming that this is agreed, the Committee is also recommending that, for the sake of consistency and clarity, and given its intrinsic link with Rule 29, Rule 49 is amended to read as follows (with suggested changes in bold):

49(1) A Member of a Committee who (or whose close family member, or any relative living in the common household or parties other than those listed whom public perception may deem to be related parties, or any company in which the Member has a controlling interest on the Member's own or their behalf of which the Member is aware) has a direct or special interest in the business under consideration by the Committee must not participate in either discussion or voting thereon and must immediately declare the interest and withdraw from the meeting during the discussion and voting on the matter concerned.

(2) In the preceding paragraph 'close family' comprises: spouse or domestic partner; grandparents; grandchildren; parents; siblings; children both dependent and non-dependent; children of a common law spouse; spouse or domestic partner of a child; corresponding in-laws and step relatives; parents-in-law; and brothers- and sisters-in law.

- 5.13 It is generally accepted that identifying a direct interest in a matter is relatively straightforward. If a Member has an interest, usually, but not necessarily, a financial interest, in a subject under discussion then he or she would be expected to declare a direct interest in the topic and play no further part in discussion or decision making. The crux of the matter is whether he or she potentially stands to gain from the decision in question, financially or otherwise. In this respect, considering declarations made in accordance with Rule 29 is a good starting point and is likely to suffice in most cases.
- 5.14 Determination of a special interest is considerably less clear-cut and interpretation of this has varied over the years. As explained in the 2018 policy letter quoted above, there are conflicting views regarding the interpretation of the term "special interest".
- 5.15 A special interest may be interpreted broadly as meaning that a Member has more knowledge and/or experience of a particular subject than the average person. Given that the Assembly comprises Members from many walks of life, it is not surprising that most, if not all, Members will have a "special interest" in one or more matters, many of which will not be relevant to Committee business. It is, however, important to be able to identify when a special interest is relevant and declarable, which often depends on context and circumstances. For this reason, it is hard to provide precise definitions because cases will vary according to the circumstances that apply.
- 5.16 Where a special interest exists, it is often unlikely to cause any conflict and, in the past, special interests in various topics have been welcomed and even encouraged within Committees in order to add richness and depth to discussions. It was considered that a Committee Member with additional knowledge and experience could make a unique contribution to discussion, thereby helping to inform policy development or other decision-making.

- 5.17 More recently, views have changed and there have been more calls for Members with special interests to remove themselves from discussions and decision-making. It is possible that this has been because of growing levels of scrutiny from the public, the media and others, heightening awareness of the need to avoid any perception that Members may be in a position to benefit, financially or otherwise, from decisions made by Committees, even if the reality is that they will not.
- 5.18 Guernsey's governance and democratic systems are coming under greater external scrutiny in the modern world – for example, the recent MoneyVal inspection was described by the President of the Committee for Home Affairs as an evaluation of the entire island – i.e. both the finance industry and government. Set against this backdrop, it is necessary to ensure the highest level of transparency around government decision-making.
- 5.19 Whilst there is no direct equivalent elsewhere of the Guernsey governmental system, in the UK all elected members of a city council are required by Law (Local Government Act 2000) to complete a register of interests form providing details of any financial or other interests that might give rise to a conflict of interest when undertaking their duties as a Councillor. Local Councils provide their own guidance to Councillors regarding the need to declare both pecuniary interests and other declarable personal interests. The latter are probably the closest equivalent to what in Guernsey are referred to as "special interests".
- 5.20 Such guidance ranges from very general: "Members can also add any other significant interests they wish to register in the public interest" (Leeds City Council) to much more specific guidance. The UK Local Government Association (LGA) has produced a Model Councillor Code of Conduct, and offers the following general guidance on compliance with the Code which may be helpful in respect of the Guernsey situation.
- 5.21 Councillors' interests are divided into three categories:
- Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – These are described as *"a category of interests which relate to the member and/or their partner, such as financial interests of you or your partner such as your house or other property, or if you have a job or own a business."*
 - Other Registerable Interests - These are described as an interest that falls within the following:
 - a) Any unpaid directorships
 - b) Any body of which you are a member or are in a position of general control or management and to which you are nominated or appointed by your authority

- c) Any body:
 - i. Exercising functions of a public nature;
 - ii. Directed to charitable purposes; or
 - iii. One of whose principal purposes includes the influence of public opinion or policy (including any political party or trade union) of which you are a member or in a position of general control or management.

5.22 When a matter directly relates to the finances or wellbeing of that interest; or

- a) When a matter affects the finances or wellbeing of that interest to a greater extent than it affects the majority of inhabitants; and a reasonable member of the public would thereby believe that your view of the public interest would be affected.

5.23 Should any Councillor have an Other Registerable Interest then the Code says he or she should not participate in the relevant business in two circumstances:

- a) When a matter directly relates to the finances or wellbeing of that interest; or
- b) When a matter affects the finances or wellbeing of that interest to a greater extent than it affects the majority of inhabitants; and a reasonable member of the public would thereby believe that your view of the public interest would be affected.

5.24 The third category is Non-registerable Interests. The Local Government Association offers the following advice:

“As a councillor you are not expected to have to register the interests of your relatives or close associates but under the Code you are expected to declare them as and when relevant business occurs which affects their finances or wellbeing. The Code says you should not participate in the relevant business in two circumstances:

- a) When a matter directly relates to that interest; or*
- b) When a matter affects that interest to a greater extent than it affects the majority of inhabitants and*
 - i. A reasonable member of the public would thereby believe that your view of the public interest would be affected.*

For example, under a) if your son has submitted an application for a licence to open a bar, the matter directly relates to your relative. You must not take part in any discussion or vote on the matter.

For example, under b) there has been an application made to build several units of housing on a field adjacent to your business partner's home. It is not their application, but they will be more affected by the application than the majority of people so again you would be expected to declare the interest and withdraw.

Similarly, an application for the property next door to you does not directly relate to your property, so it is not a Declarable Pecuniary Interest, but you would instead need to declare a Non-Registerable Interest.

In all of these cases you can speak on the matter before withdrawing but only where the public are also allowed to address the meeting."

- 5.25 In many respects these first two categories reflect the sections on Members' Declarations of Interests, which are as follows:

Employment
Directorships
Partnerships
Offices Held
Self-Employment and any other Consultancy, Profession, Trade, Vocation or other work not declared in 1-4 above
Property situated in the Bailiwick
Company Shareholdings
Trusts (excluding Professional Trusteeships)
Payments received for Public Speaking
Other Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Received
Any Other Interests

- 5.26 Guidance locally in respect of the last item on this list – Any Other Interests – is that Members should *"declare here any other interest or benefit received which, whilst not required to be registered under Parts 1-10 might reasonably be perceived by other persons to influence actions as an elected Member of the States."*
- 5.27 The Committee considers that the categories of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Registerable Interests are suitably covered by existing arrangements, and this will continue to be the case following the introduction of IPSAS requirements. Furthermore, any interests declared would be likely to constitute a reason to withdraw from Committee meetings under Rule 49, with certain exceptions such as gifts and hospitality, which in any event are declared retrospectively.

- 5.28 Ambiguity remains however in respect of what is termed a “special interest”, which is roughly equivalent to Non-Disclosable Interests as set out in the Local Government Association’s Model Councillor Code of Conduct and associated guidance material.
- 5.29 As mentioned above, the Committee does not consider that it is possible to define the term “direct or special interest”, as the engagement of such an interest – particularly a “special interest” – is often heavily dependent on circumstance and context. Notwithstanding this, there are two potential ways to address the lack of clarity that has arisen in the Guernsey context.
- 5.30 First, it might be helpful to change the term “direct or special interest”, perhaps to use language that mirrors that used in the UK. Suggested terms for the existing categories could be: Disclosable Financial Interests and Other Disclosable Interests.
- 5.31 A third category, Potentially Disclosable Interests, could also be created, which would apply to interests that may be relevant depending on circumstances. For example, having a close relative who is a property developer is not a Disclosable Interest but would be engaged if a Deputy were involved in discussions about the sale of land to the property development company in question.
- 5.32 In order to help Members understand the distinction and to help civil servants give advice, it is suggested that guidance should be drafted, including examples, as the Local Government Association has done. This might help to clarify the reasons why withdrawal from meetings might be appropriate and also assist with identifying occasions when a Potentially Disclosable Interest is engaged. In this respect, the Local Government Association advice is particularly helpful and could easily be adapted for use in Guernsey.
- 5.33 Given that the Committee has concluded that it is not possible to define a “direct or special interest”, but has, it believes, discharged the spirit of the 2018 Resolution, it is recommending, for the sake of good order, that the Resolution in question be rescinded by the States.

6 Compliance with Rule 4

- 6.1 Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees sets out the information which must be included in, or appended to, motions laid before the States.
- 6.2 In accordance with Rule 4(1):
- a) The propositions contribute to the States’ objectives by improving governance around the operation of the Assembly and Committees.

- b) In preparing the propositions, consultation has been undertaken with the Presiding Officer and the States' Greffier.
- c) The propositions have been submitted to His Majesty's Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.
- d) There are no financial implications to the States of carrying the proposal into effect.

6.3 In accordance with Rule 4(2):

- a) The propositions relate to the Committee's duties and powers to advise the States and to develop and implement policies in relation to the procedures and practices of the States of Deliberation and committees of the States.
- b) The propositions have the unanimous support of the Committee.

Yours faithfully

C P Meerveld
President

G A St Pier
Vice President

Y Burford
S P Fairclough
L J McKenna