



## Policy & Resources Committee

### Response to a Question Pursuant to Rule 14 of The Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees

**Subject:** Operational Matters of States Committees

**States' Member:** Deputy L C Queripel

**Date received:** 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2024

**Date acknowledged:** 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2024

**Date of reply:** 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2024

#### Questions

1. We often hear it said within the States, that Deputies shouldn't get involved in the 'operational matters' of States departments, i.e. procedures and processes. So with that in mind, are you able to tell me your committees' approach to that issue please?
2. Do members of your committee get involved in the 'operational matters' of your department?
3. Do you, would you, and your committee object, whenever / if ever, Deputies do/did try to get involved in the 'operational matters' of your committee?

#### Response

1. The Policy & Resources Committee is the senior Committee of the States. It concentrates on leadership and co-ordination of the work of the States, fiscal policy and economic affairs, and representing the Island in external relations.

It also delivers or oversees the delivery of, and is accountable to the States for, operational functions conferred on the Committee by way of extant legislation or Resolutions of the States and those responsibilities allocated to the Committee in Annex Two to the mandates of committees of the States.

The States are served by a competent and professional Civil Service which runs diverse and complex public services, many of which require the employment of qualified professionals. These services are delivered, as appropriate, in accordance with legislation enacted by, and strategic policies set down by, the States and their

Committees. Such delegation is considered good governance in both corporate and government settings when supported by accurate and timely reporting.

2. The performance of the organisation is monitored through management reporting procedures which provide the information for the Committee to challenge and probe where necessary and discuss and agree actions for improvement. This was most recently demonstrated publicly by the Committee's detailed response on the performance of the Revenue Service.
3. The Committee would, on rare occasions, step in to provide closer oversight in individual matters where it considers it is in the public interest or is a matter that may require changes in policy or legislation that it must bring to the States. However, it is always cognisant that across the wide ranging services that are delivered by the organisation it remains important that governance, roles and responsibilities are understood and respected.

The Committee would also note that there is a significant difference in the role of a States' Member in a Committee where responsibilities are policy-making, regulatory and oversight of operational services engaging their mandate, or in the States which concerns themselves with debating and approving legislation, broad policies and priorities, items of significant expenditure and matters of public interest, compared with their actions as an individual States' Member.

**Deputy Lyndon Trott**  
**President**  
**Policy & Resources Committee**