

Council of Ministers

(31st Meeting)

19th November 2024Part A (Non-Exempt)

All members were present, with the exception of Deputy C.F. Labey of Grouville and St. Martin, Minister for International Development, Deputy M.R. Le Hegarat of St. Helier North, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs and Deputy T.J.A. Binet of St. Saviour, Minister for Health and Social Services, from whom apologies had been received.

Deputy L.J. Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Chief Minister
 Connétable R. Vibert of St. Peter, Minister for Children and Families
 Connétable A.N. Jehan of St. John, Minister for Infrastructure
 Deputy S.G. Luce of Grouville and St. Martin, Minister for the Environment
 Deputy K.F. Morel of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Minister for Sustainable Economic Development
 Deputy R.J. Ward of St. Helier Central, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning
 Deputy I.J. Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Minister for External Relations
 Deputy S.Y. Mézec of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing
 Deputy L.V. Feltham of St. Helier Central, Minister for Social Security
 Deputy M.E. Millar of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Minister for Treasury and Resources

In attendance -

Connétable M.K. Jackson of St. Brelade, Representative of the Comité des Connétables
 Deputy C.S. Alves of St. Helier Central, Assistant Chief Minister
 Deputy M.R. Ferey of St. Saviour, Assistant Chief Minister
 Deputy A. Howell of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services
 Deputy R.E. Binet of Grouville and St. Martin, Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services
 Deputy M.R. Scott of St. Brelade, Assistant Minister for Sustainable Economic Development
 Deputy B. Ward of St. Clement, Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services
 M.H. Temple, K.C., H.M. Attorney General
 L.-M. Hart, Greffier of the States
 Dr. A. McLaughlin, Interim Chief Executive and Head of the Public Service, Government of Jersey
 K. Nutt, Chief Officer, Department for External Relations (for item B2 only)
 T. Le Feuvre, Director - Global Markets and International Agreements, Department for External Relations (for item B2 only)
 S. O'Regan, Group Director of Education, Children, Young People, Education and Skills Department (for part of items A3 and B1 only)
 J. Ashton-Bell, Principal External Relations Officer – International Trade Unit, Department for External Relations (for item B2 only)

F. Holmes, Senior External Relations Officer, Department for External Relations (for item B2 only)
J. Pennell, Jersey London Office, Department for External Relations (for item B2 only)
B. Markwell-Sales, Business and Governance Officer to the Council of Ministers
T. Mourant, Private Secretary to the Chief Minister
K.L. Slack, Senior Secretariat Officer, States Greffe
E. Patterson, Assistant Secretariat Officer, States Greffe

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Parts A and B.

- Minutes. A1. The Minutes of the meeting of 5th November 2024 (Parts A and B), having previously been circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.
- Declarations of interest. A2. No declarations of interest were received in connexion with any of the items discussed at the current meeting.
- Forthcoming business. A3. The Council noted that the Propositions, which had been lodged for debate on 26th November 2024, related directly to the Proposed Budget (Government Plan) 2025-2028 (P.51/2024 referred) and could be withdrawn, depending on the outcome of the debate.

The Council discussed the following items of public business, which were scheduled to be debated by the States Assembly at the meeting on 10th December 2024 –

Reporting on Ministerial Affairs (P.71/2024)

This Proposition, which had been lodged by Deputy K.L. Moore of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, requested the Chief Minister to update the Ministerial Code before 31st December 2024 to publish monthly details of all external meetings attended by Ministers and Assistant Ministers and details of their off-Island travel, including the attendant costs.

Having discussed the advantages and disadvantages of introducing such a proposal in a small jurisdiction, it was agreed that comments should be prepared, which outlined the challenges posed and that Deputy L.J. Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Chief Minister, would liaise with a number of interested Ministers, outside the confines of the meeting to discuss how best to proceed; and

Modern Languages in Schools (P.74/2024)

Deputy R.J. Ward of St. Helier Central, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, informed the Council that he had prepared an amendment to this proposition of Deputy M. Tadier of St. Brelade and provided details thereof. The Council indicated its support for the amendment and agreed to delegate final approval for the same to the Minister.