

Privileges and Procedures Committee

Machinery of Government Sub-Committee

(2nd Meeting)

17th October 2025

Part A (Non-Exempt)

All members were present, with the exception of Deputies T.A. Coles of St. Helier South, Chair, and M.R. Scott of St. Brelade, from whom apologies had been received.

Deputy H.L. Jeune of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Vice Chair
Deputy L.V. Feltham of St. Helier Central
Deputy R.L. Kovacs of St. Saviour
Deputy K.L. Moore of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter

In attendance –

Y. Fillieul, Assistant Greffier of the States, Chamber and Members' Support, States Greffe
J. Hales, Research and Project Officer, States Greffe
E. Patterson, Secretariat Officer, Specialist Secretariat, States Greffe
C. Tucker, Secretariat Officer, Specialist Secretariat, States Greffe

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A only.

Minutes.	A1. The Minutes of the meeting of 19th September 2025, having previously been circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.
Democratic Accountability and Governance Sub-Committee Recommendations.	A2. The Sub-Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A4 of the 19th September 2025, noted correspondence addressed to Deputy L.J. Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Chief Minister, from Deputy T.A. Coles of St. Helier South, Chair, in connexion with the Democratic Accountability and Governance Sub-Committee's (DAGS) recommendation regarding the structure of the Cabinet Office (R.23/2022 refers). It was recalled that the Sub-Committee had received correspondence from the Chief Minister, dated 15th September 2025, in connexion with DAGS recommendation No. 2, which related to the creation of a Cabinet Office function by means of merging the Ministerial Support Unit and the Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance Department. The Chief Minister had advised that the Cabinet Office operated within established legal parameters, ensuring consistent support for Ministers and that these arrangements promoted strong lines of political accountability. The Sub-Committee had decided to seek further detailed information from the Chief Minister in respect of the statutory protections and lines of accountability which related to the services provided to Ministers by the Cabinet Office. The Sub-Committee noted that a response had yet to be received from the Chief Minister and requested that a reminder be sent.

Lobbying
Guidance and
Engagement
Code.

A3. The Sub-Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A5 of 19th September 2025, received a briefing document on the proposed Lobbying Law and Register and heard from Mr. Y. Fillieul, Assistant Greffier of the States, Chamber and Members' Support, States Greffe in this connexion.

It was recalled that the Privileges and Procedures Committee (PPC) had expressed reservations with regard to the original proposal for a Lobbying Law and Register. Consequently, the Sub-Committee had developed Lobbying Guidance and an Engagement Code, as opposed to formal legislation. It was noted that the document had been updated in response to comments made by Deputy M.R. Scott of St. Brelade in the context of the Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2018.

The Sub-Committee was advised that further clarification was required with regard to the definition of a lobbyist and consultation with the European Union Commission Lobby Register to determine international best practice was suggested. To further define the role of the lobbyist, examples could be sourced from comparative jurisdictions, such as the United Kingdom, Scotland and smaller Australian State and local Governments.

Ultimately, the Sub-Committee concluded that lobbyists could be defined as individuals acting on behalf of a lobbying group seeking to influence government. It was clarified that individuals acting on their own behalf could not be classified as lobbyists and that any issues raised on an individual basis could be referred to constituency offices. It was noted that the Guidance and Engagement Code would create transparency and an audit trail.

The Sub-Committee requested that amendments to the documents be made in line with its discussions for consideration at the next scheduled meeting.

Role profiles
for elected
Members.

A4. The Sub-Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A6 of 19th September 2025, received an oral update from Mr. Y. Fillieul, Assistant Greffier of the States, Chamber and Members' Support, States Greffe.

It was recalled that questions had arisen in connexion with the role of Connétables, and whether they were required to vote in the States Assembly in line with the majority view of parishioners. Additionally, the question of whether Connétables were required to adhere to States Assembly decisions within their respective Parishes had also been raised.

The Assistant Greffier advised that under the Connétables (Jersey) Law 2008 and the States of Jersey Law 2005, Connétables were elected by Parish residents to act as the head of the Parish. Whilst Connétables and Parishes were required to comply with the laws of the Island, there was no legal requirement for them to adhere to other States Assembly decisions, specifically decisions that related to parochial matters, such as waste collection and recycling. However, it was acknowledged that there was an expectation that all States Members would adhere to States Assembly decisions.

It was noted that a Scrutiny Panel had been established to examine how the Parishes and the Government of Jersey worked together to provide effective community services. The Sub-Committee requested that correspondence be drafted for the attention of Deputy H.M. Miles of St. Brelade, Chair of the Panel, to ascertain whether the review would consider the position of Connétables in the context of compliance with States Assembly decisions.

To ensure clarity within the Role Profiles document, the Sub-Committee requested that the responsibilities for Deputies, Connétable and Senators be reviewed in connexion with parish, constituency and Island-wide responsibilities.

Work
Programme.

A5. The Sub-Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A7 of 19th September 2025, noted the ongoing work programme, which was informed by recommendations set out in the final report of the Democratic Accountability and Governance Sub-Committee (R.23/2022 referred).

Date of Next
Meeting.

A6. The Sub-Committee noted that the next meeting would be held on 21st November 2025, from 11.00 am – 12.30 pm in the Le Capelain Room, States Building.