STATES OF JERSEY

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 29A(3) OF THE STATES OF JERSEY LAW 2005: CHANGES TO MINISTERIAL OFFICES

Presented to the States on 23rd November 2026
by the Chief Minister

STATES GREFFE

REPORT

It is intended that the responsibility for the Intellectual Property (Unregistered Rights) (Jersey) Law 2011; Patents (Jersey) Law 1957; Registered Designs (Jersey) Law 1957; Trade Marks (Jersey) Law 2026 and Registrar of Intellectual Property (Jersey) Law 2026 be transferred from the Minister for External Relations to the Minister for Economic Development.

Responsibility for matters relating to Intellectual Property was transferred from the Chief Minister to the Minister for External Relations under the States of Jersey (Transfer of Responsibilities and Functions) (No. 8) (Jersey) Order 2020.

It was beneficial to retain the portfolio within External Relations while work was undertaken to modernise Jersey's intellectual property framework and align it with international agreements. That work is now nearing completion.

During this period, although political responsibility for Intellectual Property rested with the Minister for External Relations, officer provision and the associated budget remained within the Department for the Economy.

There is now an opportunity to align ministerial responsibility, budgetary provision and officer responsibility within the Department for the Economy.

The transfer may also support the identification and development of new economic growth opportunities arising from Intellectual Property by the Minister for Economic Development and their Assistant Ministers. This is valuable, reflecting the growing role of IP in supporting economic growth and innovation.

Separately, it is proposed that the Minister for External Relations be renamed the Minister for External Relations and Financial Services.

This follows the recent transfer of the financial services team and Financial Intelligence Unit from the Department for the Economy to the Department for External Relations, which will be subsequently renamed as the Department for External Relations and Financial Services.

This strengthens lines of accountability by placing all of the functions of the Department for the Economy under the Minister for Economic Development; and like-wise, all the functions of the Minister for External Relations and Financial Services will now be within the Department for External Relations and Financial Services.

Process

Article 29A(3) of the States of Jersey Law 2005 requires the Chief Minister to present a report to the States Assembly for a 14-day notice period before making an Order to make provision relating to the transfer of functions from one Minister to another and/or amend the name by which a Minister is described.

Following the notice period, an Order will be finalised and made, transferring the responsibility for Intellectual Property to the Minister for Economic Development and

renaming the Minister for External Relations as the Minister for External Relations and Financial Services.

Financial Implications

There are no anticipated financial implications.