



States Greffe

Deputy Mary Le Hegarat
Minister for Justice & Home Affairs

BY EMAIL

15th January 2026

Dear Minister,

Animal Welfare & Control Review – Notification of Public Hearing

I write to inform you that the Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Panel has agreed to schedule a public hearing with the States of Jersey Police Force and the Comité des Chefs de Police as part of its *Animal Welfare & Control Review*.

The Panel's review includes a focus on how the statutory framework governing dog ownership, behaviour, and control is implemented and enforced in practice. The hearing will assist the Panel in examining these matters in greater detail. The Terms of Reference for the review are enclosed for your information.

The Panel values the input of key stakeholders and looks forward to the cooperation of your Department as this work progresses.

Yours sincerely,

Deputy Hilary Jeune
Chair, Environment, Housing, and Infrastructure Panel

Terms of Reference

1. To examine whether the *Draft Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 202-* is fit for purpose and how it will meet its intended aims of:
 - a. replacing the *Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 2004* to shift from a reactive enforcement model towards a proactive, prevention-based system,
 - b. aligning with modern scientific understanding of animal sentience and current UK and EU welfare standards, and
 - c. granting the Minister with greater flexibility to respond quickly to new scientific developments or welfare guidance.
2. To identify any effects, resource implications and/or unintended consequences of the *Draft Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 202-* on enforcement officers, animal welfare organisations, animal-activity operators, pet-owners and the wider public.
3. To assess the structure of the *Draft Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 202-*, including the provision for order-making powers and the role of secondary legislation.
4. To examine the coherence, clarity and effectiveness of the existing statutory framework governing dog ownership, behaviour and control.
5. To evaluate the coherence and compatibility of the *Draft Animal Welfare (Jersey) Law 202-*, the *Dogs (Jersey) Law 1961* and *Policing of Beaches, Parks and Roads Regulations* as a combined framework, including:
 - a. gaps, overlaps or inconsistencies between the regimes,
 - b. alignment of enforcement powers across relevant bodies,
 - c. the effectiveness of the combined model for welfare, ownership and public protection, and
 - d. whether consolidation is desirable.