

Deputy Helen Miles,
Chair, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

BY EMAIL

19th February 2026

Dear Deputy Miles,

Draft Wills and Successions and Probate (Jersey) Amendment Law 202-

Thank you for your letter dated 18th February requesting feedback on the Draft Wills and Successions and Probate (Jersey) Amendment Law 202- (hereafter 'the draft Law') which was lodged by the Council of Ministers on 11th February. In your letter you requested responses to three questions which are addressed in turn below:

1. *Please can you advise whether you were consulted on the draft Law in relation to any impact on children and young people?*

I can confirm that the OCCJ was consulted by the Chair of the Legislation Advisory Panel (Deputy Sir Philip Bailhache) and Officers on the draft Law and a briefing meeting was held during September 2024 to discuss whether there was any impact on children and young people.

2. *Any feedback you may have on the amendments being proposed to the Wills and Successions (Jersey) Law 1993 and the extent to which they achieve the intended aims.*

We provided written feedback to the Chair of the Legislation Advisory Panel following this meeting. In this, I specifically noted: that the proposals under the 'right to remain in the family home' would provide a greater level of protection for any dependent children (under 18) in those circumstances; and that the suggested amendments under the 'principal heir' proposals which would remove the gender discrimination in

place under the existing provisions. Having reviewed the draft Law further we are pleased to see that these two aspects remain.

3. *Any concerns about the proposals contained within the draft Law and the impact of the draft Law on children and young people.*

On the basis of the above, I do not have concerns about the impact of the draft Law on children and young people.

I trust this response is of use to you in your work and please do let me know if you require any further information. I can confirm that the OCCJ is happy for this response to be published on the States Assembly website.

Yours sincerely



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