

Council of Ministers

(43rd Meeting)

20th May 2025

Part A (Non-Exempt)

All members were present, with the exception of Deputy L.J. Farnham of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Chief Minister, Connétable A.N. Jehan of St. John, Minister for Infrastructure, Deputy C.F. Labey of Grouville and St. Martin, Minister for International Development, Deputy R.J. Ward of St. Helier Central, Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning and Deputy M.E. Millar of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Minister for Treasury and Resources, from whom apologies had been received.

Deputy T.J.A. Binet of St. Saviour, Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Health and Social Services (Acting Chair)

Connétable R. Vibert of St. Peter, Minister for Children and Families

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 M.R. Le Hegarat of St. Helier North, Minister for Justice and Home Affairs (Acting Chair for item ?)

Deputy I.J. Gorst of St. Mary, St. Ouen and St. Peter, Minister for External Relations (for item B2 only)

Deputy S.Y. Mézec of St. Helier South, Minister for Housing

Deputy L.V. Feltham of St. Helier Central, Minister for Social Security

In attendance -

Deputy M.R. Ferey of St. Saviour, Assistant Chief Minister

Deputy B. Ward of St. Clement, Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services

Deputy A. Howell of St. John, St. Lawrence and Trinity, Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services

Deputy M.R. Scott of St. Brelade, Assistant Minister for Sustainable Economic Development

M.H. Temple, K.C., H.M. Attorney General

L.-M. Hart, Greffier of the States

Dr. A. McLaughlin, Chief Executive and Head of the Public Service, Government of Jersey

R. Bell, Treasurer of the States (for item B2 only)

A. Hacquoil, Group Director, Strategic Finance, Treasury and Exchequer (for item B2 only)

A. Hunt, Assistant Director, Jersey Customs and Immigration Service, Justice and Home Affairs Department (for part of items A3 and B1 only)

P. Bradbury, Head of Ministerial Office

N. Day, Head of Strategic Housing and Regeneration, Cabinet Office (for part of items A3 and B1 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

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

- Minutes. A1. The Minutes of the meeting of 29th April 2025 (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 considered at the current meeting.
- Forthcoming business. A3. The Council discussed the following items of public business, which were scheduled to be considered at the meeting of the States Assembly on 3rd June 2025 –
- Amendment to Standing Orders – Deadline for challenging written responses (P.5/2025)
- The Council noted that the purpose of this proposition, which had been lodged by the Privileges and Procedures Committee, was to afford Members, who had submitted their written question during the last week of the 3-week cycle, a greater period of time in which to contest the response provided. This would result in no member having fewer than 24 hours in which to make such a challenge, as was currently the case;
- Draft Income Support (Jersey) Amendment Regulations 202- (P.30/2025)
- Deputy L.V. Feltham of St. Helier Central, Minister for Social Security, informed the Council that these proposed amendments to the Income Support (Jersey) Regulations 2007 would reduce bureaucracy and facilitate access to benefits for those who were terminally ill. Such individuals would automatically be placed on the highest level of income support available (Personal Care level 3), once they had been assessed by a relevant clinician as being reasonably likely to die within the forthcoming 12 months; and
- Draft Highways Law (Jersey) Amendment Regulations 202- (P.31/2025)
- The Council was informed that these draft Regulations, which had been lodged ‘*au Greffe*’ by the Minister for Infrastructure, would introduce the ability for the Minister to exempt anyone placing or removing advertising materials relating to a candidate, political party, or a view, below, on or above a highway. This would be subject to them complying with a published set of conditions, which would be predicated upon the guidelines which had been produced and circulated for the last general election in 2022.
- The Council recalled that a licence was currently required to place anything below, on or above any highway in accordance with the provisions of the Highways (Jersey) Law 1956. Mrs. L.-M. Hart, Greffier of the States, informed the Council that the Jersey Electoral Authority, in conjunction with the Infrastructure and Environment Department, would be producing guidance notes for candidates in the 2026 election on the placement of posters and banners.