

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

(96th Meeting)

21st October 2008PART A

All members were present, with the exception of Senator T.A. Le Sueur, Minister for Treasury and Resources, from whom apologies had been received.

Senator F.H. Walker, Chief Minister  
 Senator P.F. Routier, Minister for Social Security  
 Senator M.E. Vibert, Minister for Education, Sport and Culture  
 Senator P.F.C. Ozouf, Minister for Economic Development  
 Senator T.J. Le Main, Minister for Housing  
 Senator B.E. Shenton, Minister for Health and Social Services  
 Senator F.E. Cohen, Minister for Planning and Environment  
 Deputy G.W.J. de Faye, Minister for Transport and Technical Services

In attendance -

Deputy A.D. Lewis, Assistant Minister for Home Affairs  
 W.D. Ogley, Chief Executive, States of Jersey  
 M.N. de la Haye, Greffier of the States  
 P. Monamy, Acting Clerk to the Council of Ministers

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

Senator W.  
 Kinnard,  
 Minister for  
 Home Affairs:  
 resignation.  
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A1. The Council was informed by the Chief Minister that Senator W. Kinnard had, at 5.15 p.m. on 20th October 2008, handed to him her letter of resignation as Minister for Home Affairs. The Chief Minister reported that he had subsequently spoken with Senator Kinnard at length by telephone. Senator Kinnard had indicated that the reason for her resignation related to an issue of moral conscience and principle, namely that at a recent meeting of the Council of Ministers, the Council had declined to accept a recommendation from her Department that an item of importance be taken forward immediately. Senator Kinnard had indicated her intention of making a statement to the States on 21st October 2008.

The Council recalled, with reference to its Minute No. B3 of 16th October 2008, that it had considered a request from the Assistant Minister for Home Affairs in relation to recommendations from H.M. Attorney General about the issue of corroboration. Having concluded that there were advantages and disadvantages to the positions adopted in Scotland, and in England and Wales, which were different to the position in Jersey, the Council had concluded that it was not able to determine a preferred course of action without further information and asked the Chief Minister to refer the issue to the Jersey Law Commission, inviting the Commission to consider reporting on the matter expeditiously.

**The Chief Minister was requested to make a statement in the States in due course.**

The Council, having noted the relevant provisions of the States of Jersey Law 2005 regarding the procedure for resignation and the appointment of a new Minister,

771  
96th Meeting  
21.10.08

recognised that Senator Kinnard would remain in office until such time as a new Minister had been appointed. **It was agreed that it would be desirable for such appointment to be made without delay and, having ascertained from Deputy A.D. Lewis that he would be prepared to accept nomination as Minister for Home Affairs, the Council requested the Chief Minister to place that nomination before the States on 22nd October 2008.**