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The Presiding Officer
The Royal Court
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8th July, 2020

Dear Sir

Letter of Comment – P.2020/54 – Justice Review Report

The Policy & Resources Committee has been consulted alongside many other parties in the development of this high level Review. The parliamentary mechanism used to bring the Report to the Assembly provides opportunity to consider the wide-ranging policy principles it addresses as a consequence and the Committee welcomes the opportunity to debate it in this manner.

The Committee *for* Home Affairs will secure an understanding of those areas of greater importance to the community through elected representatives considering the Review in the Assembly which will undoubtedly include those that are considered most valuable in the recovery of the Bailiwick in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak. Equally it should be expected that some may need to be held in abeyance given the demands on all the committees of the States to collaborate and deliver complex work streams for recovery.

The Committee is disappointed that the spirit of this style of debate has not been observed, noting a recent Amendment lodged to these Propositions, which will require the suspension of relevant Rules of Procedure and potentially lead the discussions to focus too strongly on one narrow area of policy, whatever its merit and however sympathetic individual members may be to the objective of the Amendment.

By a majority the Policy & Resources Committee strongly believes that this is not the appropriate time or the right mechanism to attempt to deal with the important policy question raised by the Amendment. It encourages the Assembly not to support the suspension of the Rules and to consider this important Review as intended, noting that it

has the opportunity to direct the Committee *for* Home Affairs to consult further before reverting to the Assembly with a framework for future justice policy.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G A St Pier', written in a cursive style.

Deputy G A St Pier

President

Policy & Resources Committee