

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

19th October, 2022

Proposition No. P.2022/81

Committee for Home Affairs

Population and Immigration Policy Review

AMENDMENT

Proposed by: Deputy P J Roffey

Seconded by: Deputy H L de Sausmarez

To insert a new proposition numbered 1A :-

1A. That the Policy & Resources Committee shall coordinate an investigation into measures to optimise the economic participation of Guernsey's resident population and to increase, wherever possible, the productivity of the island's workforce. Such an investigation to involve other relevant committees and to include :-

[i] Possible measures to encourage older islanders to continue to be economically active, or to increase the level of their economic activity, such measures to include, but not be limited to, fiscal/financial incentives.

[ii] Creating a work steam in the next iteration of the Government Work Plan aimed at increasing access to affordable childcare in order to promote greater economic participation by parents.

[iii] Consideration of what, if anything, the States could do to encourage the use of mechanisation, robotics, automation and artificial intelligence in order to improve the island's economic output as a factor of the size of its workforce.

[iiii] Consideration of what, if any, changes to the education [including adult education] and training provided in Guernsey might be desirable to achieve the outcomes referred to in this proposition.

Such an investigation to take fully into account, and dovetail with, the ongoing work being done by the committees for Economic Development and Education, Sport & Culture on developing Guernsey's Human Capital.

Rule 4(1) Information

- a) The amendment aligns with several States strategic policies.
- b) The amendment has been shared with both the Committee *for* Home Affairs and the Policy & Committee Resources at an early stage.
- c) The proposition has been submitted to His Majesty's Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.
- d) The amendment would lead to the use of some internal policy resources but overall its financial impact should be overwhelmingly positive.

Explanatory note

The size of Guernsey's work force is a factor of the number of people living in Guernsey and the level of economic participation of those people. The level of economic output is then a factor of the size of that workforce and average productivity. Given the huge infrastructural challenges that a major increase in Guernsey's population will bring [see the section of the policy letter re-impact on housing requirements] we believe it is highly desirable to stimulate the maximum possible economic participation by the resident population and to increase productivity if possible. This is not about forcing anybody to work or work more. Rather it is about enabling and encouraging those wanting to work / work more to do so. There may be many sections of society which this could apply to but the obvious two are parents wanting to work more, but restrained by access to affordable childcare, and older islanders who might consider working longer/more if incentivised to do so. Likewise before any big increase in population becoming a states' policy we think it is absolutely incumbent on the states to consider what it can do to encourage greater economic output per worker in both the private and public sectors.