

## Review of Island Wide Voting in Guernsey

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

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#### Overview

**The Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) jointly with the States' Assembly Constitution Committee (SACC) will form a panel consisting of Members of the Committees and members of the public with relevant expertise, to review the first full Island Wide Voting election.**

#### Background

In May 2017, SACC published a Policy Letter<sup>1</sup> on a Referendum on Guernsey's Voting System and the States resolved<sup>2</sup> to proceed with the holding of a referendum on the method of electing People's Deputies to the States of Deliberation.

The referendum was held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2018, using a preferential voting system. Option A, full island wide voting with 38 deputies elected in one constituency narrowly secured the greatest number of votes in the final round of counting, receiving 6017 votes or 52% of the vote ahead of Option C, 28 deputies elected in 7 constituencies and 10 deputies elected island-wide, which received 5448 votes or 48% of the vote. 14,379 people voted in the referendum.

The States' Assembly and Constitution Committee (SACC) is responsible for advising the States and developing and implementing policies in respect of elections for People's Deputies. The responsibility for making practical arrangements for running such elections is discharged by the Registrar-General of Electors. The Committee's first Policy Letter,<sup>3</sup> published in March 2019, covered changes to the Election law (the Reform (Guernsey) Law, 1948) which needed to be made. Other recommendations, which did not require law changes, were included in a second policy letter<sup>4</sup> which was published in November 2019.

The first Island Wide Voting election took place in October 2020, after the election was delayed for four months due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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<sup>1</sup> [Referendum on Guernsey's Voting System](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Resolutions Billet d'État No XIV - June 2017](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Island Wide Voting - 1st Policy Letter 2019](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Island Wide Voting - 2nd Policy Letter](#)

## Review Scope

The review will evaluate

- any demonstrable advantages from using the Island Wide Voting system
- any demonstrable disadvantages from using the Island Wide Voting system
- the effectiveness of the election process
- the views of those who took part in the process

## Review Methodology

The Committee will create a panel which will:

- undertake a review of the States of Guernsey report into Island Wide Voting of the 2020 election;
- evaluate the submissions to the Call for Evidence;
- conduct interviews with Deputies, relevant staff and other stakeholders;
- conduct public hearings, as necessary, to obtain further evidence to support the review process;
- commission a survey of public opinion;
- deliver a report on its findings to the Scrutiny Management Committee.

## Outcome

A balanced Scrutiny Management Committee report, based on the evidence available to the Committee, together with the transcript of any subsequent public hearings which will be released into the public domain.

The Report will contain evidenced based recommendations for future action.