

THE BAILIFF OF GUERNSEY
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The President
States of Alderney
Island Hall
Royal Connaught Square
ALDERNEY
GY9 3UE

21 July, 2022

Dear Sir,

On the 5th February 2020, the States of Deliberation resolved as follows:-

‘After consideration of Policy Letter of the Policy & Resources Committee entitled ‘Reform of the Matrimonial Causes Law’, dated 23rd December 2019:

1. To approve the proposals laid out in section 8 of the Policy Letter to reform the law relating to divorce, annulment and judicial separation of marriage.
2. To direct the Policy & Resources Committee working in partnership with the Committee for Home Affairs and in consultation with the Committees for Education Sport & Culture and Health & Social Care to investigate and take forward actions to improve access to information and support services relating to family law matters, as part of the work on Justice Policy to ‘remove delay from systems and processes relating to the delivery of services to children and young people in need, and to ensure that such systems and processes are centred on the best interests of the child or young person concerned’, before May 2020.
3. To direct the Committee for Home Affairs to consider and oversee the amendments required to the Domestic Proceedings legislation to align with the proposals in this policy letter to remove fault grounds.
4. To direct the preparation of such legislation as may be necessary to give effect to the above decisions.’

The Policy Letter referred to above is enclosed for reference.

On the 14th July, 2022, the States of Deliberation resolved as follows:

‘After consideration of The Policy Letter entitled, “Reform of the Matrimonial Causes Law” (dated 7th June 2022):-

1. To repeal section 22 of the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrate's Court (Guernsey) Law, 1988.
2. To note that the approval of the States of Alderney to the amendments to the Separation, Maintenance and Affiliation Proceedings (Alderney) Law, 1964.
3. To note the inclusion of provisions empowering the Matrimonial Causes division to make orders dividing or charging Sark real property, as agreed by Chief Pleas of Sark in 2021.
4. To approve the Projet de Loi entitled ‘The Matrimonial Causes (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2022’ and to authorise the Bailiff to present a most humble petition to Her Majesty in Council praying for Her Royal Sanction thereto.’

The Policy Letter referred to above is enclosed for reference.

I enclose one electronic copy of the Projet de Loi and I shall be grateful if you will place it before the States of Alderney for their approval at their next meeting.

Yours faithfully,

