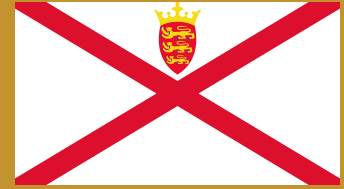


CPA UK
BRITISH ISLANDS
& MEDITERRANEAN
REGION



CPA BIMR

Election Observation Mission to Jersey

JUNE 2026



PRELIMINARY STATEMENT



"I sincerely thank the electoral administration at all levels for their open engagement, and their willingness to assist and support us throughout. I am impressed by the dedication and goodwill of the various stakeholders of the election and the numerous volunteers, whose work has led to a well-organised and smooth event."

Gary Clueit MLC, Head of Mission

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the invitation of the Privileges and Procedures Committee of the States Assembly, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association British Islands and Mediterranean Region (CPA BIMR) conducted an independent Election Observation Mission to the Jersey General Election held on 7 June 2026. This was CPA BIMR's third observation of an election in Jersey, following missions in 2018 and 2022. The mission assessed the process against international standards and domestic law, engaging with a wide range of stakeholders.

Jersey is a self-governing Crown Dependency with a unicameral parliament of 49 elected members, comprising Connétables, Deputies and Senators. Independent politicians have long played a significant role in Jersey's political landscape. The 2026 election saw participation from two registered parties, Reform Jersey and People First. In addition, some candidates publicly endorsed the priorities of a new entity, Value Jersey, which referred to itself as a political movement.

Jersey's legal framework provides a strong basis for democratic elections and is largely aligned with international standards. However, changes to the election law within three months of the election date put undue pressure on the electoral administration, especially in the Parishes.

Despite fragmented responsibilities across institutions, the electoral administration at every level worked to deliver the elections effectively. The Jersey Electoral Authority (JEA) faced particular limitations due to a lack of resources and institutional permanence.

Candidate eligibility requirements were clearly defined, and the nomination process was completed without disputes. This resulted in 92 candidates contesting 49 seats. Despite six uncontested races for Connétables, other seats were contested. With only 29 women contesting the elections, female representation among candidates was lower than in 2022.

Campaigning was active and generally respectful. Most campaigns were centred on socio-economic issues such as the cost of living and infrastructure. Traditional methods and hustings were effective, but numerous stakeholders raised concerns about compliance and the unclear status and financing of Value Jersey.

The legal framework requires disclosure of campaign spending and donations, but stakeholders highlighted challenges related to transparency and enforcement. Particular concern focused on the



emergence of Value Jersey as a political actor. These issues raised broader concerns about the adequacy of existing regulations in ensuring a level playing field and maintaining public trust.

Traditional media provided balanced and accessible coverage, supported by public information efforts. Although the online campaign provided a venue for often spirited debate, it was also host to misinformation, inflammatory language, and at least one attempt at discouraging people to exercise their full voting rights.

Jersey has not adopted any temporary special measures or other policies aimed at increasing the representation of women in elected bodies. Overall, the number of women candidates decreased slightly in 2026, with 29 women contesting the elections compared to 31 in 2022. Nevertheless, women were notably successful in the Senatorial race: only four women stood as candidates, but all four were elected.

Efforts to improve accessibility for persons with disabilities were evident in the run up to and on polling day. Accessible polling stations and inclusive voter education materials contributed to improve inclusion.

Election day was orderly and professionally managed. Procedures were largely followed, with minor concerns on secrecy of the vote and delays caused by overcrowded polling stations. Overall performance of the polling staff was very positively assessed.

INTRODUCTION TO THE MISSION

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association British Islands and Mediterranean Region (CPA BIMR) conducted an international election observation mission to Jersey which arrived on 28 May 2026. This is the third time CPA BIMR has observed general elections in Jersey, with previous missions in 2018 and 2022. The mission was invited by the States Assembly of Jersey and received broad support from across the political spectrum, with a wide variety of candidates and stakeholders engaging constructively. Observers were deployed until 8 June 2026.

The mission consisted of ten observers, including four Commonwealth parliamentarians. The Head of Mission was Gary Clueit MLC (Isle of Man). Short-term observers were Hon. Randy Howell (Turks and Caicos Islands), Sarah Champion MP (UK Parliament) and Ann Corlett MHK (Isle of Man). Election analysts were Delphine Blanchet and Ben Graham Jones, supported by five CPA BIMR staff members who co-ordinated the mission.

The mission conducted an independent assessment of the Jersey General Election, assessing the process against international standards, commitments, and obligations, as well as the island's domestic laws. It operated with full independence in its composition, findings, and conclusions, in line with the *Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation* and the *Code of Conduct for International Election Observers*.



In the period leading up to Election Day, observers met with a wide range of electoral stakeholders and attended numerous hustings, including a youth hustings. On Election Day itself, the mission observed voting across all 9 districts of the island, visiting every polling station numerous times throughout the day. The mission also observed the counting process.

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

The Bailiwick of Jersey is a Crown Dependency. It is home to approximately 104,500 people, roughly a third of whom live in the Parish of St Helier, which serves as the capital. Jersey is autonomous and self-governing, with its own independent legal, administrative and fiscal systems. The King of Great Britain is the Head of State, and the Lieutenant-Governor acts as His Majesty's representative.

Jersey's legislature sits in one house, the States Assembly, which comprises 49 elected members of equal standing in the chamber. Following recent reforms that restored the office of Senator, the incoming legislature will comprise 12 Connétables (Constables), 28 Deputies, and 9 Senators. All are elected for four-year terms. The Government of Jersey is composed of the Council of Ministers, led by a Chief Minister. Certain decentralised government functions are exercised by Jersey's twelve Parishes, which date back over a millennium and play an integral role in island life.

The 2022 elections returned a total of 24 independents, 10 members of Reform Jersey, a centre-left party, and three members of other parties. The Jersey Alliance, a centre-right party which had led the government prior to the election, lost eight of its nine seats, with its only elected member announcing his resignation from the party shortly after the election.

Deputy Kristina Moore became Jersey's first female Chief Minister and appointed a government composed entirely of independents. However, following a vote of no confidence in January 2024, Deputy Lyndon Farnham, also independent, took office as Chief Minister for the remainder of the term. He led a government composed of ministers from Reform Jersey and independents, only two of whom had served in the previous administration.

Two registered parties contested the 2026 election: Reform Jersey, who presented 16 candidates, and People First, who presented 2 candidates. In addition, a political entity, Value Jersey, came to prominence over the lead-up to the election, referring to itself as a political movement. Although a number of candidates declared their support for Value Jersey at different stages of the electoral process, it was not formally registered as a political party.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Jersey has a unique legal system that incorporates features of Norman customary and English legal traditions. The States Assembly is responsible for passing legislation, including electoral law, which



may be introduced by any member. Laws come into effect when registered by the Royal Court, the representative of the English monarch.

The law in Jersey offers a strong basis for the conduct of democratic elections. Elections are governed by the Elections (Jersey) Law 2002, the Connétables (Jersey) Law 2008, and the 2014 Public Elections (Expenditure and Donations) Law. The framework is completed by relevant provisions of the 2008 Political Parties (Registration) Law, 2018 Data Protection Law, the 2018 Data Protection Authority Law, and the 2018 Freedom of Information Law.

Although Jersey passes its own domestic legislation, the principal international obligations pertaining to Jersey are extended by the UK at the island's request. These include a range of human rights obligations relevant to elections, including:

- 1953 European Convention of Human Rights;
- 1966 International Covenant on Civic and Political Rights;
- 1965 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
- 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
- 2005 UN Convention against Corruption.

The 2008 United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which makes important provisions relating to freedom of expression, access to information, and participation in public life, has not been extended to Jersey.

The lead-up to the election saw a number of amendments to the electoral law. The most significant changes included an amendment to roll out Automatic Voter Registration (AVR), which moved Jersey from an active voter register, in which electors have to register to vote, to a passive voter register, in which all eligible citizens are registered by default; and the reintroduction of the office of Senator.

The introduction of such consequential changes to the election law three months before the vote posed challenges, including undue pressure on the electoral administration. As underscored by the Venice Commission and affirmed by the CPA four years ago, *'substantive changes to the legal framework less than a year before voting may undermine confidence in the process, thus contravening electoral good practice.'*

Interlocutors consistently reported a need for greater stakeholder inclusion in the legislative process. Although the best efforts from the many stakeholders responsible for administering the election ensured that the vote proceeded in an orderly fashion, a number of challenges may have been avoided had adequate time been available for technical scrutiny of the draft legislation.



ELECTORAL SYSTEM AND BOUNDARY DELIMITATION

Reforms to the electoral system enacted by legislation passed on March 24, 2026, saw this election mark the return of the office of Senator, which had been abolished at the 2022 polls. This decision returns Jersey's electoral system to consist of three types of representatives across three differently delineated constituencies. All of the representatives sit together in one unicameral parliament, the States Assembly, and have the same voting power.

To make room for the reintroduction of Senators, nine Deputy positions were removed, one from each district. The timing of the amendment prevented adequate time to communicate the new system and is at odds with international best practice, as already noted in the CPA's 2022 recommendation.

The island's nine Senators are elected in one island-wide constituency. Twenty-eight Deputies are elected across nine voting districts, with between two and four members elected in each constituency. Twelve Connétables are elected across each of Jersey's parishes. All are elected under a simple majority, first past the post system.

The 2026 elections are the second consecutive electoral cycle in which voters have been offered a "none of the above" option on their ballot, in single-candidate contests for Connétable, a measure introduced with the stated aim of encouraging greater voter participation. Six Connétable races in 2026 were uncontested. This represents an improvement compared with 2022, when eight such contests featured only a single candidate.

ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the electoral process is divided between four institutions:

- The 12 Parishes
- The States Greffe
- The Judicial Greffe
- The Jersey Electoral Authority (JEA)

The 2026 amendments to the 2002 Election Law were enacted less than three months before the election, placing additional pressure on an already complex electoral administration. These amendments introduced three major reforms:

- the scheduling of voting on a Sunday;
- the reinstatement of the senate;
- the implementation of a completely new voter registration process, the Automatic Voter Registration (AVR)



The late adoption of the amendments to the Election Law affected the electoral calendar, shortening key deadlines and resulting in the overlap of several election-related activities.

This can contribute to negative perceptions of the electoral process among stakeholders and the public.

The Parishes have traditionally been responsible for the operational aspects of elections, including voter registration, volunteer recruitment, and the establishment and management of polling stations on election day. As a result, they were the first to be directly affected by the legislative changes and were required to make considerable efforts to implement them within a very short timeframe. In particular, the late introduction of the Automatic Voter Register and the decision to hold voting on a Sunday created significant operational challenges, including recruiting sufficient volunteers to staff polling stations. The Election Administrators of the Parishes should be commended for their professionalism and dedication.

The Judicial Greffe is directly responsible for pre-polling and postal voting, and for ensuring recruitment and training of the Autorisés, volunteers who oversee polling, counting, and the declaration of results.

The States Greffe ran an extensive voter engagement and information campaign through traditional media (posters, banners, flyers) and via the Vote.je website, which had a high level of recognition and visibility in the public. The Greffe placed considerable emphasis on outreach to young people through a range of initiatives, including activities in schools, candidates' fairs, the Youth Assembly, and campaigns on social media, such as TikTok and Facebook. It also engaged with the business community to promote electoral participation. Furthermore, some voter education materials were made available in minority languages, including Portuguese, Polish, and French, thereby enhancing the accessibility of election-related information for diverse communities.

In the 2022 elections, the Jersey Electoral Authority was nominated close to the elections and played only a minor role. This role increased in 2026, but the JEA still does not hold budgetary autonomy, is not staffed, and depends on volunteers, the States or the Judicial Greffe for its functioning.

The JEA is vested by law with oversight and direct implementation responsibilities over some aspects of the electoral process which de facto were implemented by the Greffes. The JEA is also responsible for publishing a Code of Conduct (CoC) for candidates, which it successfully did. For the most recent election, the CoC was comprehensive, covering both the campaign and campaign finance. It was included as part of the nomination file candidates had to fill in and sign.

Some interlocutors were not aware of the JEA's role, and others were dissatisfied with the limited extent of its mandate and enforcement capacity, which was not perceived to be conducive to an effective administration of elections.



Special voting arrangements

In addition to in-person voting on election day at a polling station, voters were granted a wide array of options to cast their votes.

In-person advance voting was available at a polling location in Saint Helier from Tuesday, 26 May, until midday on Monday, 1 June. Many stakeholders considered this period too short, particularly since advance voting was not available on weekends. Nevertheless, approximately 2,500 voters cast their ballots in advance, indicating strong interest in and demand for early voting opportunities.

Postal voting: this option was extended in 2022 to all voters who wished to use it. Voters could apply for a postal vote until 30 April. They had until election day itself, at noon, to send their ballot back to the Judicial Greffe, or were also granted the possibility to cast their ballot in person at their polling station. Election day being a Sunday, the Judicial Greffe had set up special arrangements with Jersey Post to ensure ballots would arrive on time.

All ballots cast by postal vote or during early voting were brought to their corresponding polling stations and added to the ballots cast on election day. Around 1,700 voters applied for a postal ballot, which is fewer than in 2022 when 2,709 voters applied.

Voters who were ill or in a nursing home and their caretakers could vote at home, either during the pre-poll period or on election day.

VOTER REGISTRATION

The right to vote is guaranteed by the Elections (Jersey) Law 2002. In 2026, the law was amended so residents of Jersey aged 16 or over have the right to vote provided that they have resided in Jersey for 12 continuous months by election day, or six continuous months on election day in addition to periods that total five years. This is a welcome improvement compared to 2022 when residency requirement was 24 months. For the first time, all prisoners, including those serving a sentence longer than four years were eligible to vote.

This year's election marked the introduction of a significant reform to the voter registration system, which moved from an active registration to a passive registration system. Whereas voter registration had previously been the responsibility of individual voters and was undertaken at the Parish level, a new centralised, governmental project, the Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) was introduced, late in the electoral cycle. The AVR aimed to automatically enrol eligible voters on the electoral register, relying principally on information obtained from the database of the Employment, Social Security and Housing Department within the Government of Jersey.

While the electoral register used for the 2022 elections contained approximately 61,000 voters, the first data extracted through the AVR identified around 80,000 eligible voters, representing a



substantial increase. However, the late activation of the Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) system significantly constrained opportunities for auditing or testing. The Electoral Administrators of the Parishes were only able to check the accuracy of the new system in mid-March when they found out that more than 15,000 eligible voters were missing, raising concerns about the accuracy and inclusivity of the AVR.

The late adoption of the law and the resulting compression of electoral deadlines had a severely detrimental effect on the implementation of a reform of this scale, leaving insufficient time for testing, stakeholder preparation, and the resolution of operational issues.

The Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) system was a recurring source of concern among candidates and voters alike met by the mission, many of whom questioned its accuracy and reliability.

RIGHT TO STAND FOR ELECTION

The right to stand for an election as Senator, Deputy or Connétable is set out in the States of Jersey (2005) Law and the Connétables Law (2008). Across all three contests, candidates must be a British citizen resident in Jersey for at least two years. A person may not stand if they are detained under the Mental Health (Jersey) Law 2016, have declared bankruptcy within the preceding five years, have been convicted of an offence as a public official under the Corruption (Jersey) Law 2006, or have been subject to imprisonment for more than three months.

The law requires that prospective candidates present a list of the names and addresses of one proposer and nine seconders, who must themselves be on the voter list, along with their registration materials. Candidates submitted these materials between 20 -22 April 2026 in a process overseen by the Jersey Electoral Authority (JEA), with the administrative support of the States Greffe.

Some candidates found that they or their supporting signatories were not on the voter list. This was primarily a consequence of the late passing of the amendments to the Election Law, which resulted in inadequate time for the necessary data cleaning and audit of the list, as well as the integration of adequate other data sources beyond the social insurance register in order to ensure that all voters were on the list.

Although the resulting administrative burden elevated the workload for the States Greffe and the parishes, the mission did not encounter any instances of disenfranchisement. The list of 92 candidates for 49 seats was confirmed on 27 April, with deadlines respected according to law.



CANDIDATE REGISTRATION

The JEA retains oversight of the nomination process, which is implemented by the State Greffe. Candidates for the three elections were required to submit their nomination forms between 20 and 22 April. The States Greffe was then tasked with verifying candidates' eligibility by 27 April, including confirming that the voters supporting each nomination were registered to vote in the relevant constituency. This process was particularly challenging, as the voter register, necessary to check the eligibility of the candidates and of their supporters, was neither finalised nor available at that stage. In addition, a supplementary voter registration period remained open until 28 May.

Many candidates raised concerns with the mission regarding the overlapping deadlines between their nomination and the voter registration deadlines, arguing that it created uncertainty and complicated the candidates' eligibility verification process. As part of the nomination process, candidates were required to submit a short manifesto statement, which was subsequently included in an election information booklet distributed to voters' homes on 11 May. This feature was highly appreciated by candidates. Because of the tight deadlines resulting from the late adoption of the law, the 1,700 registered postal voters may have voted before receiving this resource.

The candidate registration process was completed without any rejections, and no complaints or appeals were filed. A total of 92 candidates were registered for an overall inclusive and competitive process across the elections, comprising 17 for the 9 Senator seats, 23 for the 12 Connétable seats, and 52 for the 26 Deputy seats. Six Parishes were uncontested.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN

The official campaign period began on 7 February for reporting expenses purposes. Campaign activities only gained significant momentum following the official nomination of candidates on 27 April.

Approximately 30 hustings were organised throughout the campaign period. The JEA was responsible for scheduling these events, while the States Greffe determined their format to ensure that they could be recorded and subsequently published on the Vote.je website. Several hustings were also interpreted into sign language, enhancing their accessibility. Among the hustings observed by the mission, a youth-focused event for Senatorial candidates stood out for its strong turnout and dynamic exchanges, reflecting notable political interest among younger voters.

The hustings were generally well attended, demonstrating the continued importance of direct interaction between candidates and voters. They proved particularly valuable for candidates contesting the Senatorial elections, whose constituency encompasses the entire island. To facilitate island-wide voter engagement, one Senatorial hustings event was organised in each Parish. The mission attended several of these events and found them informative, respectful, and well conducted.



In addition to participating in hustings, candidates relied extensively on door-to-door campaigning, which remains one of the most appreciated and effective means of voter outreach in Jersey.

Traditional campaign methods, including posters and occasional banners, were also widely used. However, observers noted several instances in which campaign materials were displayed in contravention of applicable regulations.

The campaign focused largely on socio-economic issues. The most frequently discussed topics included the cost of living, particularly housing affordability, and calls for the establishment of a low-cost supermarket on the island. Other issues regularly raised during the campaign included the construction of a new hospital, a project widely viewed as necessary but criticised for delays and rising costs, as well as plans for a new school.

The campaign also featured debate regarding the role of the recently established Value Jersey within the island's political landscape. Several interlocutors questioned the group's financing arrangements, noting that it was neither registered as a political party nor as a third-party supporting candidates. Concerns were raised regarding the transparency of its funding sources and campaign expenditures, as it recruited candidates committed to advancing its policy agenda. These issues generated discussion among candidates and voters throughout the campaign period.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Political finance in Jersey is regulated under the Public Elections (Expenditure and Donations) (Jersey) Law 2014. All candidates are required to submit expenses to the JEA. This law explains the obligations applying to candidates to declare their expenditure, which includes declaring expenses made within the four months to election day and more than four months prior to the election if these goods are used within that four-month period.

Interlocutors repeatedly underscored the need for a more robust framework for political finance to ensure a level playing field. Particular concerns were raised about the need for timely enforcement against infractions. In March 2026, a Lobbying Code was introduced to the States Assembly, which sought to define what constitutes lobbying; this was defeated in the States Assembly.

The UN Convention on Corruption has been extended to Jersey through the UK's ratification. The convention calls on adherents to "adopt measures that enhance transparency in the funding of candidates and political parties". The requirements to register as a political party are defined in the Political Parties (Registration) (Jersey) Law 2008. The law imposes requirements such as the provision of regular statements of account. However, interlocutors repeatedly underscored concerns around a lack of transparency in political finance.

During the election, discussions on campaign finance frequently mentioned the status of 'Value Jersey', a political grouping that described itself as a 'political movement'. On 12 May 2026, Value Jersey



Ltd was incorporated as a private company under the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991. A number of interlocutors expressed concerns that registering political groups as companies would allow for lighter disclosure and transparency requirements than for a formal political party. Although the law imposes limits on spending by ‘third parties’, debate focused on the extent of this definition.

A Board Member of Value Jersey disclosed that the group had a contract with the Messina Group, a political consultancy firm whose members have worked on Barack Obama’s 2012 election campaign and the Conservative Party’s 2015 campaign. A number of stakeholders underscored that speculation around Value Jersey reduced trust in both the electoral process and the adequacy of the framework around political finance for guaranteeing an equal playing field. On 29 May, the JEA noted that it will make recommendations related to political finance after the election, including ‘matters relating to political movements’.

MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The right to freedom of expression is guaranteed in Jersey under the Human Rights (Jersey) Law 2000. Jersey is subject to core international obligations underpinning media freedoms, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights. The legal framework pertaining to media freedom is supplemented by relevant provisions of the Freedom of Information (Jersey) Law 2011, the Freedom of Information Public Elections (Expenditure and Donations) (Jersey) Law 2014, and the Communications (Jersey) Order 2020. The electoral legislation in Jersey does not mandate a period of campaign silence.

The media landscape includes the Jersey Evening Post, BBC Jersey, ITV Channel, Channel 103 radio, the Bailiwick Express, and other independent radio and online media. Although the mission did not undertake a comprehensive program of media monitoring, it notes that the media undertook important functions during the election, including providing means for candidates from across the political spectrum to broadcast their messages.

Despite the modest number of media houses in Jersey, coverage was diverse and innovative in nature, and included varied formats of voter information, news articles, analysis, and investigative journalism. The proactive engagement of media organisations by the States Greffe to disseminate important information helped safeguard voters’ rights of access to information.

The online campaign took place across the platforms in use in Jersey, including Facebook, X, Instagram and TikTok. Social media provided a venue for many to engage in dialogue about the election; however, it also hosted insults, inflammatory remarks, and an attempt at discouraging people from exercising their full voting rights. Interlocutors reported that the online debate in this election was marred by a level of acrimony not seen in past Jersey elections. The tone and nature of some of this content could serve to dissuade people from standing for office or participating in political debate.



The formation of a robust evidence basis around online harms in Jersey elections is impeded by the lack of a civil society organisation specialising in digital issues and the absence of social media analysis capabilities within the electoral authorities. In addition, social media companies' ongoing restrictions on platform APIs, which enable researchers to analyse the spread of false claims and information operations on social platforms, impede the scrutiny of information integrity online. Jersey lacks a number of safeguards against foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI): it does not host any member of the international fact-checking network, a global association of best practice in information integrity, and lacks a foreign influence registration scheme.

POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF UNDERREPRESENTED GROUPS

While women have the same rights as men to vote and stand for election, Jersey has not adopted any temporary special measures or other policies aimed at increasing the representation of women in elected bodies. Overall, the number of women candidates decreased slightly in 2026, with 29 women contesting the elections compared to 31 in 2022. There were four women candidates for Senator, four for Connétable and 21 for Deputy. Nevertheless, women were notably successful in the Senatorial race: only four women stood as candidates, but all four were elected.

Interlocutors identified several factors that may hinder women's political participation, notably the financial burden of running an electoral campaign and exposure to online harassment. These challenges were reported as potential deterrents to women considering candidacy.

Candidates generally did not disclose their disability. The mission observed that considerable efforts were made by the election administration to improve accessibility to the process. Observers noted that all polling stations were independently accessible and most were equipped with a magnifying glass for voters with visual impairment. Sign language was used in many voter education activities, too.

The States Greffe developed and disseminated numerous voter education materials in minority languages, notably Polish and Portuguese, thereby facilitating the participation of linguistic minority communities in the electoral process.

ELECTION DAY

The mission observed the 19 polling stations, sometimes more than once. Observers were always warmly welcomed, and in general, a positive atmosphere prevailed on election day despite the challenges posed to the polling station staff by the new AVR system and the high number of voters.

The EOM team went to four polling stations to observe them open for voters, and procedures were conducted efficiently and in accordance with established regulations. Essential electoral materials were present, and candidates or their representatives were observed outside the polling stations.



Voting commenced promptly, and observers noted a steady flow of voters throughout the day, occasionally resulting in long queues.

Multiple errors related to the AVR system were observed in all 19 polling stations visited by the mission. These issues created an additional workload for polling station staff and electoral authorities. Nevertheless, they were generally addressed efficiently, although in some instances they caused delays in the voting process. Only a very limited number of voters were unable to vote at the polling station where they presented themselves; they were often redirected to another polling station. Overall, observers noted a clear commitment by polling staff and Autorisés to facilitate voting and ensure that all eligible voters who presented themselves at a polling station were able to cast their ballot, as swiftly as possible.

Candidates and their representatives were present outside all polling stations visited by the mission. Their presence was unobtrusive and did not appear to interfere with the voting process or create any disturbance.

In all 19 polling stations visited by the mission, voting procedures were generally followed and accessibility for voters was ensured. However, in a small number of polling stations, the secrecy of the vote could have been better protected through a different layout of the premises, particularly given the high turnout and the resulting congestion in certain areas.

Overall observers rated the performance of the polling station staff and of the Autorisés as very good (73%) and good (27%). All the staff (besides the election administrator) were volunteers, and their performance is to be commended. Women made up a significant proportion of polling station staff, reflecting their active involvement in the administration of the electoral process.

The counting process for the three elections began quickly after the polls closed and continued until the early hours of the morning. The results process involved the need to sort and process different categories of ballots, including those cast through advance voting, postal voting, and homebound voting arrangements. At the time of drafting, the mission has not received the exact total number of voters on the register, nor the total numbers of voters who have voted.

FINAL REPORT

This statement is the mission's initial findings. Within three months of Election Day, a Final Report will be published. This will include recommendations to enhance future elections.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

The CPA BIMR Election Observation Mission wishes to express its gratitude to all on the island of Jersey who supported the work of the Mission, including election officials, candidates and civil society organisations. We are also grateful to our team of observers and analysts for taking part.

CPA BIMR ELECTION OBSERVATION SERVICES:

The first objective of the BIMR Strategy is to strengthen parliaments and the skills of their members. As part of this work, CPA BIMR facilitates election observations when invited to do so.

For more information about these services, please contact the CPA BIMR Secretariat at: cpabimr@parliament.uk



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