

### 3. CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL AMENDMENTS

#### 3.1. Police (Amendment) Bill 2016 – Council amendment considered

Mr Watterson to move.

**The Speaker:** We turn to Item 3, consideration of Council amendments, the Police (Amendment) Bill.

In the absence of the mover, Mr Watterson, I call on the Member of the Department, Mr Thomas.

**Mr Thomas:** Thank you, Mr Speaker.

In view of the absence of the Minister on Government business, I am grateful for your permission to move that the amendment made by Council, as shown on the Order Paper, is accepted by the Keys.

The amendment contained within the new clause 5A was made in the Council because discussions with interested parties had recently been concluded, and in order to give effect to the agreement an amendment had to be made to section 12(5) of the Police Act 1993 to enable special constables to become members of the Isle of Man Police Federation.

The effect is to treat special constables as regular officers for the purposes of membership of the Federation. The Department recognises the valuable work special constables undertake alongside their regular colleagues in the Constabulary and considers they should be able to avail themselves of the same level of protection (**Mr Houghton:** Hear, hear.) and representation as is afforded to regular officers by membership of the Federation.

The Bill is the appropriate vehicle at the appropriate time to achieve this change.

Mr Speaker, Hon. Members, I beg to move that the amendment made by our hon. colleagues in the Legislative Council be accepted, forms part of the Bill, and that the Bill do now pass.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Member, Mr Houghton.

**Mr Houghton:** Thank you, Mr Speaker.

I am very happy to support and second this amendment. It is a very wise move and long overdue, and I commend the Department for bringing it forward. Thanks.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Members, I put the question that the Council amendment to the Police (Amendment) Bill be approved. Those in favour, say aye; against, no. The ayes have it. The ayes have it.