

**REPORT OF THE
HOUSE OF KEYS STANDING
ORDERS COMMITTEE
THIRD REPORT FOR THE
SESSION 2016-2017
Code of Conduct for Journalists**

HOUSE OF KEYS STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE THIRD REPORT FOR THE SESSION 2016-2017

House of Keys Standing Orders

Membership

6.6 At the first sitting of the House after a General Election, the House shall elect five Members to form the Standing Orders Committee to hold office until the next succeeding dissolution of the House; and the House shall from time to time fill any vacancy that may arise. The Speaker shall be a member of the Committee ex officio.

Duties

6.7 It shall be the duty of the Standing Orders Committee to consider Public Petitions and to review the Standing Orders from time to time and to make recommendations to the House for any amendments thereof.

The powers, privileges and immunities relating to the work of a committee of Tynwald are those conferred by sections 3 and 4 of the Tynwald Proceedings Act 1876, sections 1 to 4 of the Privileges of Tynwald (Publications) Act 1973 and sections 2 to 4 of the Tynwald Proceedings Act 1984.

Committee Membership

The Hon J P Watterson SHK (Rushen) (Chairman)

Mr D J Ashford MHK (Douglas North)

Hon G D Cregeen MHK (Arbory Castletown and Malew)

Hon R K Harmer MHK (Glenfaba and Peel)

Mr L L Hooper MHK (Ramsey)

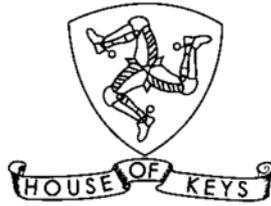
Hon C C Thomas MHK (Douglas Central)

Copies of this Report may be obtained from the Tynwald Library, Legislative Buildings, Finch Road, Douglas IM1 3PW (Tel: 01624 685520) or may be consulted at www.tynwald.org.im

All correspondence with regard to this Report should be addressed to the Clerk of Tynwald, Legislative Buildings, Finch Road, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM1 3PW.

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HOUSE OF KEYS STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE THIRD REPORT FOR THE SESSION 2016-2017

Code of Conduct for Journalists

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 17th January 2017, Tynwald Court resolved that a Code of Conduct for Journalists be adopted.
2. This Code allows accredited journalists to film, record, and broadcast sittings of Tynwald and its Branches with the permission of the Presiding Officer (or Chair in the case of Committees), and sets out required standards of conduct.¹
3. This Report considers the adoption of the Code in the House of Keys, and other related matters.

II. CODE OF CONDUCT

4. Although the Code of Conduct already includes the House of Keys in that it refers to Tynwald and its Branches, we would nevertheless like to add it to our own Standing Orders.
5. We further recommend that standing permission to film sittings of the House of Keys be given to all accredited journalists. Accredited journalists will therefore not have to ask permission from the Speaker to film any part of a sitting.

Recommendation 1

That the Code of Conduct for Journalists be added to *Annex 1: Rules for Admission* of the Standing Orders of the House of Keys.

¹ See Annex 1.

Recommendation 2

That accredited journalists be given standing permission to film sittings of the House of Keys, until further notice.

III. AGREEMENT WITH MANX RADIO

6. Given this new arrangement with journalists, and the fact that the entire sitting of the House of Keys is already broadcast live on the Internet via the Tynwald website,² we consider it redundant to restrict Manx Radio's coverage to Question Time any longer. We do, however, recognize that Manx Radio may not wish to cover every sitting in full. We therefore recommend:

Recommendation 3

That Manx Radio be allowed to radio broadcast any part of the sitting in addition to Question Time.

IV. CONSOLIDATED LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1

That the Code of Conduct for Journalists be added to *Annex 1: Rules for Admission* of the Standing Orders of the House of Keys.

Recommendation 2

That accredited journalists be given standing permission to film sittings of the House of Keys, until further notice.

Recommendation 3

That Manx Radio be allowed to radio broadcast any part of the sitting in addition to Question Time.

² <http://www.tynwald.org.im/business/listen/Pages/default.aspx>

J P Watterson (Chairman)

D J Ashford

G D Cregeen

R K Harmer

L L Hooper

C C Thomas

February 2017

V. ANNEX I

I. Code of Conduct for Journalists

1. Only accredited journalists and other media personnel may film, record, or broadcast within the precincts of Tynwald.
2. Accredited journalists and other media personnel may film, record, or broadcast sittings of Tynwald and its Branches only within their respective Chambers, unless they have specific permission to do otherwise. They should observe regulations about access to other areas.
3. Accredited journalists and other media personnel may film, record, or broadcast sittings of parliamentary Committees only with the permission of the Chair. Only those appearing in an official capacity and Committee members should be filmed.
4. Accredited journalists and other media personnel must not act as lobbyists, paid or unpaid, for any individual or organisation that might seek to influence the political process or benefit from inside knowledge of the political process.
5. Accredited journalists and other media personnel must conduct themselves appropriately within the precincts of Tynwald, taking care not to cause any disruption to proceedings. They are asked to observe appropriate standards of dress when attending sittings of Tynwald or its Branches.
6. Accredited journalists and other media personnel must treat parliamentary staff with courtesy and consideration.
7. At any stage, accredited journalists and other media personnel may be asked to withdraw from any part of the precincts.

II. Accreditation

1. Tynwald welcomes all local, national, and international media. Applicants will be required to demonstrate that they operate in a regulated environment, adhering to the principles and standards set down by independent bodies such as the National Union of Journalists. Freelance journalists will be required to demonstrate that their work is likely to be used by an accredited news organisation; this will require the supporting signature of an Editor or equivalent. Applications should be made to the Clerk of Tynwald.
2. Accreditation will usually be given for a specified period.

III. Access

Interviews with Members may be conducted throughout the precincts of Tynwald, in accordance with the rules listed below. Consideration must be given to other building users. There are also Interview Rooms provided for this purpose.

Members' Offices: Filming, recording, or broadcasting may only take place inside the constituency offices and interview rooms in the Members' Area with the permission of the Members present. Filming, recording, or broadcasting in the communal areas of the Members' Area is prohibited.

Members' Room: Filming, recording, or broadcasting in the Members' Room is prohibited on sitting days.

Public Areas: Filming, recording, or broadcasting is permissible in public areas, but the privacy of building users should be respected.

Staff accommodation, including the Tynwald Library: Filming, recording, or broadcasting may take place in staff accommodation only with the permission of the Clerk of Tynwald.

IV. Breaches of the Code

Any breaches of the code of conduct may result in accreditation being withdrawn.

V. Copyright

Tynwald owns the copyright to any footage filmed within the precincts, with sharing permitted. Tynwald reserves the right to request copies, where available, of any footage filmed within the precincts.

Parliamentary Copyright

available from:

The Tynwald Library
Legislative Buildings
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Isle of Man, IM1 3PW
British Isles

Tel: 01624 685520
e-mail: library@tyrwald.org.im

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