DRAFT FIRE PRECAUTIONS (AMENDMENT) (JERSEY) LAW 200- (P.10/2002): ADDENDUM

Presented to the States on 12th February 2002 by the Home Affairs Committee



STATES OF JERSEY

STATES GREFFE

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REPORT

1. Background

- 1.1 At its meeting of 7th September 2000 the Home Affairs Committee received a report and proposals for increasing income to the States of Jersey Fire Service from the Chief Fire Officer.
- 1.2 The Committee approved the recommendations of the report, one of which required amendments to the Fire Precautions (Jersey) Law 1997 to allow the recovery of administrative costs associated with the issue, amendment or replacement of fire certificates.
- 1.3 At its meeting of 27th November 2000, the Finance and Economics Committee endorsed the Home Affairs decision (Act 5B).
- 1.4 The States of Jersey Fire and Rescue Service, whilst following the States' declared policy of "user pays", exists to serve the public of our Island and has therefore sought to set charges at a level which fairly reflects the administrative costs incurred in the processes of issuing, amending or replacing a fire certificate.
- 1.5 The scale of charges have been calculated based on the experience gained issuing and amending some 800 or so fire certificates since 1980. This allows the average time taken to process particular tasks to be used to set an "average" charge, which method also helps keeps down administration time, and therefore costs.
- 1.6 The calculation covers cost elements such as the hourly rate for the Fire Safety Officer, secretarial/administrative support, consumables (e.g. paper and postage), heating, lighting, wear and tear etc.

1.7 Proposed fees relating to Fire Certificates

Number of bedrooms	New applications	Replacement/Copy of Certificate	Amended Certificate	Change of occupier amend- ment
Up to 10	£100	£50	£75	£25
11 to 50	£125	£75	£100	£25
51 to 100	£150	£100	£125	£25
Over 100	£200	£200	£150	£25

Future annual increases to the scale of charges will be in line with the level agreed by the States in their antiinflation policy. This means that the costs will rise by 2.5 per cent in 2002, notwithstanding that staff employed received a four per cent increase to salary in the 2001 pay round.

2. Legislation

2.1 The Law Draftsman has produced a draft Law which was approved by the Home Affairs Committee at its meeting of 20th September 2001. In preparing the draft, the Law Draftsman advised that it would be opportune to bring the penalties in the Law into line with the present level and style of expressing fines.

3. Human Rights

3.1 The Attorney General has reviewed the draft Law and the Committee has issued a Certificate of Compliance confirming that, in its view, the draft Law is compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights (Jersey) Law 2000.

4. Financial and manpower implications

4.1 The Committee considers there to be no additional financial or manpower implications for the States.