

**QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE FINANCE AND ECONOMICS
COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY, 18th MARCH 2003,
BY DEPUTY C.J. SCOTT WARREN OF ST. SAVIOUR**

Question

At sometime in the future there may be more people visiting Mont Orgueil Castle, and I would therefore ask the President to advise members whether a fire audit of the Castle has been carried out by the Jersey Heritage Trust in order to ascertain that the proposals contained in the Development Strategy are fully compliant with all current fire safety regulations and practices?

Answer

Every application from the Jersey Heritage Trust for development or alteration of Mont Orgueil Castle is subject to the normal planning processes, which include compliance with the fire safety requirements of the current Building Bye-Laws, administered by the Building Control section of the Environment and Public Services Department. That Department works closely with the Fire Prevention Officer in determining an application, and in considering any conditions to be placed on a permit.

The proposals outlined in the Development Strategy have been explained to the Fire Prevention Officer, in order that he may carry out an appropriate risk assessment. His recommendations will form part of any permit that may be issued. Furthermore, the finished works will also be inspected by the Fire Service, and their officers may stipulate further conditions if they deem them necessary, such as a limitation on the number of persons that can be in a room at any one time.

It should also be borne in mind that

the castle is considered of low risk, being primarily constructed of incombustible materials;
smoking is not permitted within the castle buildings; and,
provision for a fire alarm system is included within the project budget.

I have full confidence in the ability of the Fire Service to impose any conditions they deem necessary, and I am equally confident that the Jersey Heritage Trust will appreciate the need for safety as being of paramount importance.