

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
BY DEPUTY R.J. WARD OF ST. HELIER
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 1st FEBRUARY 2021
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2021**

Question

Will the Minister advise what charges are currently levied on the installation of solar panels on buildings; and will he also advise what work, if any, is being undertaken to lower or remove these charges in order to encourage the use of renewable energy products in both new builds and home improvements?

Answer

Part 4 of Schedule 1 of the Planning and Building (General Development) (Jersey) Order 2011 already grants planning permission for solar panels on buildings where:

- The building is not protected for its heritage value;
- The building is not within the final approach zones for the airport runway;
- The panels do not project more than 20 cm from the sloping plane of the roof; and,
- No more than 90% of the surface area of the roof is covered.

Where these criteria cannot be met, planning permission is required. In such cases, the fee charged for an application is £64.60 per item, subject to a maximum of 6 items.

Having considered and received officer advice on the matter of lower or no charges to encourage the use of renewable energy, I have decided that the Environment (2022 Fees) (Jersey) Order 2021 will no longer incur a fee on applicants wishing to install solar panels for domestic use; except for where there are safety concerns related to the airport runway.

As technology continues to improve and other environmentally positive products become available, we will look to synergise regulation with the Island's wider environmental ambitions where possible and appropriate. For example, what recommendations, if any, come from the Citizens' Assembly as part of Government's Carbon Neutral Strategy work and relate to regulation.