

STATES RENTAL WAITING LIST

Presented to the States on 30th March 1999
by the Housing Committee

STATES OF JERSEY

STATES GREFFE

140

1999

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Report

1. The waiting list as at 1st January 1999 comprises 373 families/individuals. This compares with the figure of 352 as at 1st January 1998 and 268 as at 1st January 1997.
2. Of these 373, 290 are considered to be in urgent need of re-housing for various reasons, including ill-health, sub-standard accommodation and overcrowding. This figure of 290 is notably more than the figure as at 1st January 1998, which was 218.
3. In addition, the Committee has 20 families/individuals in temporary hostel accommodation awaiting re-housing.
4. During 1998, 283 families/individuals were accepted on to the waiting list. This figure compares with 330 in 1997 and 294 in 1996.

The waiting list has increased by 21 families/individuals since the beginning of 1998.

Note:

The Housing Committee is continuing with its current refurbishment programmes at Elysée Estate, Le Geyt Flats and Grasett Park, which will have an adverse effect upon the waiting list for the next few years as families are relocated to alternative

accommodation. Notwithstanding this, the rise in the waiting list remains a serious cause for concern.

A number of new developments will be completed by the Committee this year, namely: Elysée Phase II, Wilkes Gardens and the next phase of the refurbished flats at Le Geyt.

In addition to the above, the Sacre Coeur, Belle Vue Phase I and Christian Science sites - all being developed by the Jersey Homes Trust - will be completed later this year.

However, the Committee remains deeply concerned at the projected shortfall of some 625 units of social housing between now and 2003. This figure is after sites such as Le Coie Hotel, the Waterfront, Cannon Street/Lemprière Street, La Motte Ford site, the Postal site etc., have been taken into account.

The Housing Committee, with the support of the Policy and Resources, Finance and Economics and Planning and Environment Committees, is actively addressing this issue. To this end it has been agreed to purchase two further sites in the urban area.

The Housing Committee, whilst recognising that the work on identifying and assessing urban sites is a continuous process and that new sites may come forward in the interim, believe it is apparent that the sites currently identified are unlikely to be sufficient in themselves to accommodate all the identified additional social housing requirements for the next four to five years. Furthermore, it is important not to lose sight of the difficulties that can be experienced in obtaining sites for residential development and the effect of this on the likely timescale for the completion of dwellings. Accordingly, the Committee will continue to press that sufficient land is made available to meet the known housing need.