

# Supervisory Committee Connétables de Jersey

Minutes of the meeting held on  
**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020**  
(virtual meeting conducted online).

## **Present:**

Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Chairman  
Connétable de St Héliér - A. S. Crowcroft, Vice Chairman  
Connétable de St Clément - L. Norman  
Connétable de St Sauveur - Mrs S. A. Le Sueur-Rennard  
Connétable de St Brélade - M. K. Jackson  
Connétable de Grouville - J. E. Le Maistre  
Connétable de St Jean - C. H. Taylor  
Connétable de la Trinité - P. B. Le Sueur  
Connétable de St Pierre - R. P. Vibert  
Connétable de Ste Marie - J. M. Le Bailly  
Connétable de St Ouën - R. A. Buchanan  
Connétable de St Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone

In attendance: Mrs S. R. de Gruchy, Secretary

## **Non-exempt (public) under Freedom of Information (Jersey) Law 2011**

Minutes

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Annual Island  
Wide Rate  
Figure (AIRF)

2. The Supervisory Committee recalled that the Annual Island Wide Rates Figure for 2019 was £13,286,384 and Article 20(1) of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005 provided for this to be adjusted by the percentage change in the Jersey Retail Prices Index (RPI) calculated by comparing the annual figure compiled for the quarter ending in March of that year with the annual figure compiled for the quarter ending in March of the previous year. The change in the RPI for the 12 months to March 2020 was 2.7% thus the AIRF for 2020 was £13,645,116 and this had been confirmed by the Head of Shared Service Centre, Government of Jersey. In accordance with the Rates (Apportionment) (Jersey) Regulations 2006 -

- (1) 55% of the Annual Island-wide Rates Figure shall be met from the domestic rate (£7,504,814).
- (2) 45% of the Annual Island-wide Rates Figure shall be met from the non-domestic rate (£6,140,302).

The Committee discussed the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact on ratepayers noting that a number of business sectors had been adversely affected, some significantly, by the requirement to close which was imposed by the Government of Jersey in March 2020 on public health grounds. Concern was expressed that this would impact on the ability of some non-domestic ratepayers to pay the rates due. Domestic ratepayers might also be adversely affected if employment had ceased, or income had been reduced, during the period when restrictions were in force. Such restrictions were only just being eased but some sectors, for example hospitality, would continue to be affected in the coming months.

The Committee was mindful of the assistance being offered by Government to support the economy during the pandemic and agreed that it should write to the Minister for Treasury and Resources proposing that, notwithstanding the requirements of the Law,

the AIRF should be maintained at the 2019 level rather than increase by the RPI. This would result in a reduction of £358,732 in the sum paid to the States in 2020 (£197,303 from domestic ratepayers and £161,429 from non-domestic ratepayers) but might help to ensure that the island-wide rates did not increase in 2020. In considering this proposal the Committee heard that Connétables would be seeking to ensure parish rates were not increased in 2020 and, if possible, might even be reduced as this would assist all ratepayers. The Chairman was requested to write accordingly and to seek advice from the Minister as to how she might be addressing issues faced by specific sectors such as hotels.

Chairman ..... Date .....