

STATES OF JERSEY



ISLAND PLAN 2011: REVISED DRAFT REVISION – APPROVAL (P.37/2014) – EIGHTH AMENDMENT (P.37/2014 Amd.(8)) – AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 9th July 2014
by the Minister for Planning and Environment

STATES GREFFE

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For the words “over-60s” wherever they appear, substitute the words “over-55s”.

MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

This amendment has been lodged by the Minister for Planning and Environment for less than 6 weeks before the start of the debate in accordance with the provisions of Article 4A of the Planning and Building (Jersey) Law 2002. Paragraphs 4A(2), (3) and (4) are in the following terms –

“4A Procedure for and following lodging of draft Island Plan

- (2) An amendment to a draft Island Plan cannot be debated by the States unless it has been lodged for a minimum period of 8 weeks.
- (3) An amendment to an amendment to a draft Island Plan cannot be debated by the States unless it has been lodged for a minimum period of 6 weeks.
- (4) Paragraph (2) or (3) does not apply to an amendment lodged by the Minister if the States agree that the amendment may be debated forthwith or on a day or at a time approved by the States.”

In accordance with the provisions of paragraph (4), the Minister for Planning and Environment will seek the agreement of the States to debate this amendment during the debate on P.37/2014: Island Plan 2011: revised draft revision – approval.

REPORT

The thrust of the eighth amendment of Deputy J.H. Young of St. Brelade is to give greater emphasis in the Island Plan to the need to plan and provide for the needs of older people, particularly in the communities where they already live.

The Minister for Planning and Environment accepts and supports this.

This is likely to be increasingly important as greater emphasis is placed on people living in their own homes for longer and where, as a result, greater reliance will be placed on the formal and informal networks of community support.

The Minister considers, however, that any such work should focus on the age cohort of over-55s, rather than over-60s, as set out in the amendment. The rationale for focussing on the age-group of over-55s is well-established.

In Jersey, this was adopted in 2004 arising from valuable inter-departmental work that resulted in the Island-wide Strategy for the Ageing Society (ISAS), and has been applied to the rezoning of land to provide homes specifically for the Island's ageing community in 2007 and 2008. It is also an accepted age cohort when planning for the ageing society in the UK, and is employed by agencies such as the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

The essence of focussing on the over-55s cohort is that people are more willing and able to make active life choices – particularly about where and in what type of accommodation they own/occupy – when they are beginning to plan for older age, rather than when they are actually forced to make such decisions because of changed circumstances as they age.

By changing the parameters of the age cohort to the over-60s, this reduces the ability to embrace a wider cohort of people who are beginning to plan for and enter older age, which is not considered to be beneficial and is not supported. For this reason, this further amendment seeks to change the age cohort to over-55s to reflect best practice and bring this change to the Plan in line with existing and established practice in Jersey.

Financial and manpower implications

There are no direct financial or human resource implications arising from this further amendment.