STATES OF JERSEY

1

SALE OF PROPERTY: LA FALAISE, FLIQUET, ST. MARTIN (P.161/2005)— AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 14th September 2005 by the Deputy of St. Martin

STATES GREFFE

SALE OF PROPERTY: LA FALAISE, FLIQUET, ST. MARTIN (P.161/2005) – AMENDMENT

For paragraph (b) substitute the following paragraph—

"(b) to agree that the proceeds of sale of the above property should be utilised for the purpose of implementing, in 2006, the agreed limited third party appeals provision under the Planning and Building (Jersey) Law 2002, and to request the Finance and Economics Committee to take the necessary steps to reallocate the funds as required for this purpose."

DEPUTY OF ST. MARTIN

REPORT

When the Housing Committee lodged P.119/2004, Sale of Properties, which included l'Hôpital, Amy's House and 5 other properties, it claimed that the sale was a "one-off" as the revenue received from the sale would be for the much-needed refurbishment of Le Clos de Roncier, St. Clement.

Within months of that claim, the Housing Committee is again seeking States approval to sell a property it administers and again to retain the revenue for the refurbishment of States rental properties.

The States has approved Deputy Scott Warren's proposition to provide for the limited Third Party Appeals Provisions in the Planning and Building (Jersey) Law. Unfortunately insufficient funding has been identified to implement the scheme, which is estimated to cost in the region of £170,000 per annum to administer.

Only this week Deputy Scott Warren was unsuccessful in securing funding via the States Business Plan P.151/2005. During the debate there was considerable support for the Deputy but Members could not support the amendment because she had not adequately identified where the funding could come from.

The Housing Committee is claiming "with its unique location and wonderful views, La Falaise was expected to attract in the region of £500,000." (JEP report 12th August 2005). This is indeed a "Windfall" which according to States policy should be returned to the States' central funds. However the Housing Committee is proposing to utilise the proceeds to refurbish 16 units at Clos de Quennevais in St. Brelade.

The £500,000 would also cover the cost of administering the Third Party Appeals Provision, by which time the Environment and Public Services Committee should be in the position to take over the funding.

La Falaise was only recently vacated and the Housing Committee has wasted little time in lodging a proposition to seek consent to sell the property and retain the proceeds. It has identified a location to spend the proceeds, but I believe that given that the Housing Committee has a prioritising scheme to refurbish its properties, the Committee should do so from the funds allotted to it.

The States has approved Deputy Scott Warren's proposition and if the States approves the sale of La Falaise, I believe that the "Windfall" should be utilised to fund the implementation of the Third Party Appeals Provision.