STATES RENTAL WAITING LIST

Presented to the States on 22nd February 2000 by the Housing Committee



STATES OF JERSEY

STATES GREFFE

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Report

- 1. The waiting list as at 1st January 2000 comprises 405 families/individuals. This compares with a figure of 373 as at 1st January 1999 and 352 as at 1st January 1998.
- 2. Of these 405, 210 are considered to be in urgent need of re-housing for various reasons, including ill-health, substandard accommodation and overcrowding. This figure of 210 compares with 223 as at 1st January 1999 and 218 as at 1st January 1998.
- 3. In addition, the Committee has 17 families/individuals in temporary 'hostel-type' accommodation awaiting rehousing.
- 4. During 1999, 353 families/individuals were accepted onto the waiting list. This figure compares with 283 in 1998 and 330 in 1997.
- 5. The waiting list has increased by 32 families/individuals since the beginning of 1999. The biggest demand is for two-bedroom accommodation. However, there has been a noticeable increase in the need for one-bedroom flats. The need for three-bedroom flats and houses remains strong, with some 64 families requiring the same. Taken with a figure of some 110 families on the Committee's tenant transfer list, also in need of three-bedroom properties, there is a significant shortfall.

With the current refurbishment/rebuild programme, there is a continuing requirement to move existing tenants from Elysee Estate, Le Geyt Flats, Grasett Park and Parade Square. This will cause added pressures on the rental waiting list. Current waiting times remain unacceptably long, some twelve months for those needing two-bedroom accommodation, increasing to a minimum of two years for those requiring three-bedroom homes; even for those in the highest priority groups. Matters will be helped by the completion of the following developments, which should be available for allocation during the remainder of this year -

Belle Vue 90 units (Jersey Homes Trust Project)

Oak Tree Gardens (Phase II) 34 units Le Geyt Flats (Phase V) 12 units FB Cottages (Phase II) 11 units 147 units

In view of the continuing demand for social housing, it is essential that those sites already identified for housing over the next three years are developed without any reduction in number and within the timescale indicated. Although the Housing Development Fund will be utilised to finance a significant amount of the social housing programme, the latter cannot be met in its entirety without the continued involvement of housing associations.