

# Supervisory Committee Connétables de Jersey

Minutes of the meeting held on  
**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019**  
at the Public Hall, St Martin.

## **Present:**

Connétable de St Laurent - Mrs D. W. Mezbourian, Chairman  
Connétable de St Clément - L. Norman  
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 Martin - Mrs K. Shenton-Stone

Apologies for absence were received from the Connétable de St Hélier - A. S. Crowcroft, Vice Chairman; the Connétable de St Sauveur - Mrs S. A. Le Sueur-Rennard and the Connétable de St Ouën - R. A. Buchanan.

## 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 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed.

Rates Working  
Group - report

2. The Supervisory Committee, with reference to its minute no. 3 of 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019, received the report of the Rates Working Group (RWG) and the Minority Report prepared by Mr E Trevor. The reports had also been sent to the Minister for Treasury and Resources and, in accordance with its Terms of Reference, the RWG was seeking political direction from the Committee and the Minister for Treasury and Resources in regards to the recommendations. The Committee recalled it had been represented on the RWG by Mr J M Refault, the former Connétable of St Peter (minute no. 2 of 5<sup>th</sup> April 2018 refers) and the other members were the Chairman of the Association of Jersey Rates Assessors, the Chairman of the St Helier Assessment Committee (Mr Trevor) and officers.

The Committee noted that the three independent members of the RWG agreed the findings in the RWG report but were unable to reach a unanimous recommendation in regards to the revaluation of property in Jersey for rates purposes. A majority of two members recommended that there should not be a revaluation of property in Jersey for rates purposes. The basis for making this recommendation was that the available data indicated that the monetary adjustment for the vast majority of ratepayers of a revaluation would be small and the potential cost of undertaking the revaluation would be high. The dissenting independent member of the RWG did not agree with this recommendation on the basis that maintaining the FRV of property led to an unfair distribution of the cost of property rates.

Having discussed the reports, the Committee was unanimous in accepting the recommendation that there should not be a revaluation of property in Jersey for rates purposes. The Committee agreed the Chairman should write to the Minister for Treasury

and Resources to outline its reasons for reaching this decision and to recommend that the RWG report be published.

Island-wide rate  
apportionment  
review

3. The Supervisory Committee, with reference to its minute no. 4 of 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019, received a report from the Connétable of St John who, together with the Connétable of St Helier, had been asked to lead the Island-wide rate apportionment review in accordance with Article 20 of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005.

The Committee was informed by the Connétable of St John that a meeting had been held with representatives of business groups and of the Chief Minister on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019; however discussion turned to the valuation of rateable values for different sectors of non-domestic property rather than focus on the apportionment of the island-wide rate. The Chairman reminded the Committee that it had first discussed a review of the apportionment in 2009 but had decided not to proceed due to the economic situation and that, at that time, a decision was still awaited on whether the States would pay rates. It had also deferred a decision to review in 2018 but had decided on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019 it would be appropriate to commence a review of the apportionment of the Island-wide rate raised from Domestic and from Non-domestic ratepayers so that this was rebalanced in 2020 and, if necessary, undertake a further review in the event that the Rates Working Group recommended, and the States agreed, that all property should be revalued (minute no. 2 of this meeting refers).

Following discussion, and having noted apologies from the Connétable of St Helier who was out of the island on States business but had asked that the item be deferred, the Committee agreed the matter should be considered further at its next meeting.

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