THE STATES OF DELIBERATION Of the ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

7th September 2022

Proposition No. P.2022/63

States' Trading Supervisory Board

Future Waste Charges

AMENDMENT

Proposed by: Deputy G A St Pier Seconded by: Deputy V S Oliver

To insert:-

- "1A. To agree that household waste charges should be increased annually from 2023 to 2025 as set out below by no more than:
 - a. an annual increase of RPIx plus 1% (capped at 5%) to the "pay as you throw" bag charge for general waste; and
 - b. an increase of RPIx plus 1% (capped at £5) per year to the Waste Disposal Authority's annual waste charge."

Rule 4(1) Information

- a) The proposition contributes to the States' objectives and policy plans following recognition in the Government Work Plan 2022 that "the increasing cost of living, [is one of the] most pressing and immediate domestic pressures which the States must tackle."
- a) In preparing the proposition, the States' Trading Supervisory Board, the Committee for the Environment & Infrastructure and the Policy & Resources Committee were invited to comment.
- b) The proposition has been submitted to Her Majesty's Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.

c) If the proposition is successful, the financial implications cannot be accurately quantified as the future rate of inflation (RPIx) is unknowable. However, the States' Trading Supervisory Board have advised that for the large black bag label charge, each 1% reduction in revenue is calculated to be £14,510 and the fixed household charge, each 1% reduction in revenue is calculated to be £26,452.

Explanatory note

Following the introduction of kerbside recycling in 2018, waste charges were introduced with effect from 1 January 2019, initially at £85 per household and £2.50 per large black bag label. These charges were increased by 5.8% (to £90) and 8% (to £2.70) respectively, with effect from 1st January 2021. They were further increased by 8.9% (to £97.97) and 7.5% (to £2.92) with effect from 1st July 2022.

Proposition 1 seeks 'to note' the current intention of the States' Trading Supervisory Board to further increase household waste charges well above the rate of inflation annually from 2022 to 2025. In the current high inflation environment, such a policy is unreasonable; the States should be taking whatever action it can to control those prices and inflationary inputs which are under its control.

Rule 3(24) of the Rules of Procedure provides that:

"Any proposition the effect of which is to note the contents of an accompanying policy letter shall be construed as a neutral motion, neither implying assent for, nor disapproval of, the contents of the policy letter concerned."

Accordingly, the amendment does not seek to alter Proposition 1, reflecting a decision already taken by the States' Trading Supervisory Board and the passage of which would be neutral. Instead, the amendment inserts a new Proposition 1A which defers any further increase until 2023 and further caps subsequent annual increases to no more than 5% and £5 for bag charges and annual household waste charges respectively.