

ADDENDUM

Late Filed Reports for the Christmas Meeting of Chief Pleas – 22nd January 2014

Under the Provisions of Rule 11(11) of the Rules of Procedure of the Chief Pleas of Sark the President of Chief Pleas has waived the notice required under Rule 1(4) and allowed the Finance and Commerce Committee and jointly the Harbours and Pilotage Committee, the Firearms Committee and Road Traffic Committee to add further reports to the Agenda as follows:

- Item 31. To CONSIDER a Report from the FINANCE AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE entitled “**Modifications to Tax Payments (2014 only)**” (copy enclosed).
- Item 32. To CONSIDER a Report from the HARBOURS and PILOTAGE COMMITTEE with FIREARMS COMMITTEE, and ROAD TRAFFIC COMMITTEE entitled “**REMOVAL OF CONSTABLES AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES**” (copy enclosed).

10 January 2014

Lt Col RJ Guille MBE
President of Chief Pleas

Anyone wishing to see the Addendum and supporting papers may do so at the Committee Offices, Monday – Thursday, between 2.30pm and 5.00pm and at other times when the offices are open; copies may be obtained from the Committee Secretary. The Addendum, Agenda, Reports and Supporting Papers may also be seen on the Sark Government Website at www.sark.gov.gg

FINANCE AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Report with proposition to Christmas Chief Pleas, 22nd January 2014

MODIFICATIONS TO TAX PAYMENTS (2014 ONLY)

This report is brought as a result of decisions taken at an Extraordinary Meeting of the Finance and Commerce Committee on 6th January 2014. The meeting was called in response to an email from the SAFE (Sark Action for Families and Employment) Steering Committee raising their concern at the difficulties some individuals, they come into contact with, have in paying their personal and property tax during the winter months of this year. Although on further communication with SAFE no actual numbers of individuals could be provided to support their assertion, the F&C Committee decided to look at the issue. The purpose of this was to see if any changes could be made to the payment schedule that would assist individuals in meeting their tax liabilities, without compromising the cash flow of the government.

F&C concluded that some modifications could be implemented within the law; this was confirmed by the Law Officers of the Crown and applied to the option of a schedule of 9 monthly payments. The committee agreed the following principles;

- Everyone must get their declaration in on time (by 28th January 2014) or a penalty will be applied by the tax assessor as per the current system
- Every person liable to pay tax (who chooses to pay in 9 instalments) must pay something toward their bill on each of the 9 instalment dates starting in January 2014
- The minimum payment per month is £20/person
- Where individuals have arranged with the Treasurer to make the minimum payment of £20/person/month) for the first three months (either monthly or more frequently) on months four, five and six and seven the payments need to increase to cover the shortfall, so that at the end of month seven (i.e. by 28th July 2014) the payments are up to date
- All tax being paid by monthly instalments must be paid no later than 28th September 2014
- Payments can be more frequent than monthly for the first 6 months
- If an individual misses any payment then they will become liable to pay the full amount as per the current rules
- Any agreement reached between the individual and the Treasurer on behalf of F&CC must be set out in writing and signed by the tax payer
- Usual arrangements for paying quarterly and in one single instalment to remain unchanged

Proposition

That Chief Pleas approves the modifications to tax payments listed above for 2014 only.

**Conseiller Robert Cottle
Chairman, Finance and Commerce Committee**

**HARBOURS & PILOTAGE, ROAD TRAFFIC
and FIREARMS COMMITTEES**

Joint report with proposition to Christmas Chief Pleas, 22nd January 2014

**REMOVAL OF CONSTABLES AS EX-OFFICIO
MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES**

All three committees were approached by the Constable requesting removal from their committees. They have reconsidered the need for Constables as ex-officio members of their committees and have decided that this arrangement is no longer necessary.

The Constables will remain as ex-officio members on the Emergency Services Committee, the Sark Influenza (Human) Pandemic Committee and the Policing Review Committee. The Sea Fisheries Committee remains unaffected by this report.

Proposition - 1

That Chief Pleas approve the removal of the Constables from all Committees with the exception of the Emergency Services Committee, the Sark Influenza (Human) Pandemic Committee and the Policing Review Committee.

Proposition - 2

That Chief Pleas direct that the relevant Committee Mandates be amended to comply with this proposition.

**Conseiller Janet Guy, Chairman of Harbours and Pilotage Committee
Conseiller Anthony Ventress, Chairman of Road Traffic Committee
Conseiller Richard Dewe, Chairman of Firearms Committee**