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No: 32/2018

Memorandum for Executive Council

SUBJECT

Immigration (Amendment) Regulations, 2018

Memorandum by the Chairperson of the Social and Community
Development Committee

ADVICE SOUGHT

1. **Council is asked to consider and approve the attached Immigration (Amendment) Regulations 2018, to come into force on the 10th July 2018.**

**BACKGROUND &
CONSIDERATIONS**

2. Members will be aware that fees and charges should be reviewed on an annual basis as part of the budget process to determine whether they are appropriate and recovering the cost of service.
3. As a result of increasing pressure for upwards movements in expenditure budgets, it is necessary to increase revenue generation where possible and appropriate in order to maintain expenditure in other priority areas for SHG.
4. The Short Term Entry Permit fee is payable when a passenger eligible for a Short Term Entry Permit arrives at St Helena by any means.
5. It is recommended that The Short Term Entry Permit fee is changed from £17 to £20.
6. The date to come into effect is 10th July in order to allow notice to be given of the increase.

**FINANCIAL
IMPLICATIONS**

7. The proposed increase of £3 on the Short Term Entry Permit fee represents an uplift of 17.6% on the current fee. The £17 fee has not been increased since before 2012. Between 2012 and 2018, inflation has been 18%.
8. Based on projections of short term visitor numbers over the rest of the financial year, taking into account estimates of short term visitors via St Helena Airport, visiting yachts and cruise ships, it is estimated that the additional revenue that can be generated through the increase in fee is between £7,500 and £9,000.
9. The most sensitive element of the revenues estimated above is the number and size of cruise ships visiting in that period. Where the

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cancellation of one cruise ship visit will have a notable impact on the revenues projected above. A change in the estimated number of short visitors via air will have a lesser impact.

10.

ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

11. The proposal increases the benefits realised by SHG from investment in the air service and the associated tourism generated.

CONSISTENCY WITH INVESTMENT POLICY PRINCIPLES

12. Not applicable.

PUBLIC / SOCIAL IMPACT

13. There will be a small increase of £3 for visitors who require a short term entry permit.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

14. There are no environmental impacts identified.

PREVIOUS CONSULTATION / COMMITTEE INPUT

15. The change was agreed with the Social and Community Development Committee on 14th February 2018.

PUBLIC REACTION

16. This will not affect individuals with St Helena status. No negative public reaction is expected.

PUBLICITY

17. The decision should be mentioned in the ExCo Report and associated broadcast.

18. The change in fees will also be published via the appropriate channels.

SUPPORT TO STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

19. This paper supports all of the National Goals and strategic objectives as revenue generation is necessary in order to maintain expenditure in priority areas.

LINK TO SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN GOALS

20. Improve Infrastructure:

Using tax revenue and other funding streams for investments to improve health, education, water, electricity, transport, risk management and other infrastructure.

OPEN/CLOSED AGENDA ITEM

21. Open Agenda

Corporate Services DATE OF MEMO

14 June 2018

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