EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order makes provision for the valuation for financial years 1996-97 to 1999-2000 of certain lands and heritages occupied by water authorities and wholly or mainly used for the purposes of water undertakings carried on by them ("the prescribed class of lands and heritages") (article 3).

The Order prescribes the aggregate amount of the rateable values of the prescribed class of lands and heritages for financial year 1996-97 at £33,218,368 and prescribes how the aggregate amount should be arrived at for each of the three following financial years (article 4). It also apportions the aggregate amounts among the three water authorities (article 5) and among local authorities (article 6 and Schedules 1 and 2).

The Order also amends certain enactments relating to the valuation of the prescribed class of lands and heritages and revokes the Order for financial year 1995-96 concerning water undertakings (articles 7 to 10).