WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2012

Question

Will the Minister state when he expects to receive the completed report of Professor Wilcox into the social impact of the plan to incorporate social rented Housing provision and will he give an assurance that this report will be made available to members before any Housing proposals are debated by the Assembly?

Answer

Professor Steve Wilcox, working as an Associate for Sector Treasury Services Limited, was engaged by my Department as part of a joint review with the Social Security Department of rent policy and housing component of Income Support.

The Professor's draft report made proposals for changes in the relationship between social housing rents and income support levels which are not being pursued by the Department of Social Security. However, once the Minister for Social Security releases his preferred policy it will probably be appropriate to release the Professor's report, as this has informed development of the proposed rent policy.

It is anticipated that both broad rent policy and income support proposals will both be published later in the autumn.