WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2013

Question

Will the Minister assure members that he will ensure that future sales of States rental properties will only be to States' tenants and not to a wider market to ensure that the social housing stock is not reduced and, if not, why not?

Answer

R.15/2013, The States of Jersey Housing Transformation Full Business Case, debated and approved by the States on 17th May 2013, made it clear that the new Housing Company would be required to sell 300 homes (an average of 15 sales per annum for years 1-20 of operation). In addition it made it clear that 30 sales would be made prior to the commencement of the new Company on 1st July 2014.

Other than for any specifically identified high value properties, all of the sales will be classified as "affordable" in perpetuity and will be allocated to those registered on the Affordable Housing Gateway as being entitled to either social housing or for an affordable housing scheme.

Funds generated by the sales will be reinvested in the Company business model as set out in R.15/2013which will ensure that all homes meet the Decent Homes Standard within 10 years and that all borrowing is repaid within 20 years.