SOCIÉTÉ JERSIAISE

ENVIRONMENT SECTION

The Scrutiny Panel, States Greffe, Morier House, St Helier. JE1 1DD PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
DEPARTMENT

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2 Fernlea Avenue, Grouville. JE3 9BG 9th February 2007



Dear Sirs,

The Design of Homes

Members of the Société's Environment Section are reporting with apparently increasing frequency examples of what they consider to be seriously sub-standard provision of accommodation in new development. Without being able to name individual developments, I can list aspects which have been commented upon and which may merit the attention of Scrutiny, viz. -

- i) appartments for single occupation which do not have doors or windows to bedrooms and thus suffer from poor ventilation,
- ii) rooms which are so small that furniture (in particular, wardrobes) has to be placed in front of windows so that only a small slit allows natural light into the room,
- iii) developments that become excessively hot in summer, with inadequate ventilation and
- iv) developments where there is no communal provision for drying/airing washing and attempts to hang washing out of windows is prohibited the result being that washing can seen hanging inside windows, so giving a poor impression of both the living conditions of the development and the area in which its stands.

Allied with these instances, there appears to be no attempt to enforce or even encourage the application of the principles of sustainability. As just one example, apartments and individual houses are being designed and constructed with no provision for reducing water consumption (ie. the use of 'grey' water as an alternative to the use of mains water).

It is frequently remarked that, while the Archive Centre has been designed with high standards of insulation, ventilation etc for the building as a whole and not simply the specialist areas, there is no requirement for or recognition of efforts to apply these qualities to buildings in general.

We trust that these comments may be of assistance to the relevant Scrutiny Panel.

Yours sincerely

Chairman