

**STATEMENT TO BE MADE BY THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING
ON TUESDAY 15th MARCH 2011**

As Members will recall P.189/2010 was debated in this Assembly on the 2nd March 2011. As a result I can now confirm to the Assembly, in respect of paragraph (C) of the approved proposition, that information on how to access social housing together with current eligibility criteria is available on the gov.je website. Additionally, information on the waiting and transfer list figures, together with an indicative wait duration for each property type has now been placed on the web site. This information will be updated monthly. I trust that this information will be of much use to those seeking social rented accommodation with the Housing Department.

6. The Minister for Housing will make a statement in relation to matters arising from the debate of Deputy P.V.F. Le Claire of St. Helier's proposition 'Housing issues in Jersey' (P.189/2010)

6.1 Deputy A.K.F. Green of St. Helier (The Minister for Housing):

As Members will recall P.189/2010 was debated in this House on 2nd March this year and as a result I can now confirm to the House that in respect of proposition (c), the information on how to access social housing, together with the current eligibility criteria, is available on the gov.je website. Additional information on the waiting and transfer list figures, together with indicative wait durations for each property type has now also been placed on the website. This information will be updated monthly and I trust that this information will be of much use to those seeking social rented accommodation within the Housing Department.

6.1.1 Deputy P.V.F. Le Claire:

I thank the Minister for Housing for proving he is a Minister of action and getting on with something so swiftly, and just ask him if he is going to include the Housing Trust in this information, and will this feature very prominently within the website of the States of Jersey, because it can be a minefield of links to links to links? Is this information going to be easily findable? I am going to go and look myself.

Deputy A.K.F. Green:

The information on waiting lists for the Housing Trusts is not available at present time. There will be links, to keep them simple; links to other housing providers such as Housing Trust.

6.1.2 Deputy R.G. Le Hérissier:

The Minister for Housing in his selection speech noted that he wanted direct personal access by members of the public and his own customers, as the word has it, to the Housing Department. Does he think he can do this in parallel with developments on the website, as people sometime feel very blocked off physically from the department?

Deputy A.K.F. Green:

There is no doubt that the current accommodation for Housing officers is inadequate and more like Fort Knox than a customer-friendly department and we need to do something about that. I will be discussing it as part of my work with the officers and the Assistant Minister on Friday.

The Bailiff:

No other questions for the Minister for Housing? Very well, that brings those matters under K to a conclusion.