

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMITÉ DES CONNÉTABLES  
BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 30th JUNE 2014**

**Question**

Further to the answer given to my question on 17th June 2014, would the Chairman advise whether parish rates are raised mainly to cover services required by properties and, if so, would he confirm that unoccupied properties have a far less cost to the parish than occupied ones?

Would he explain why the Parishes do not differentiate between occupied and non-occupied properties?

**Answer**

No; rates are not raised mainly to cover services required by properties.

Article 15(1) of the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005 (“the 2005 Law”) provides that:

“Each parish shall levy for each rateable year a parish rate consisting of the foncier and the occupier’s rate, the proceeds of which shall ... be applied for the payment of the general expenses of the parish ...”

The parish rates therefore cover the general expenses of the parish.

As explained in the answer given to the question on 17th June 2014, the definitions of “owner” and “occupier” in the 2005 Law mean that there is an “occupier” for all property so far as the Rates (Jersey) Law 2005 is concerned. Therefore the parishes do not differentiate between occupied and non-occupied properties.