

Name: david brown

Email:

Comments: THE SALE OF HOUSING STOCK

The sale of States housing stock is the greatest thing that could be done for the ordinary working family, this century. The total lack of price control, and sale of property to outside interests, has allowed prices to rise way above the ordinary local family, by ordinary, i mean people not employed in the finance industry. It is known that the rent collected from States rental flows in and right out again into private landlords pockets in the form of rent rebate, the very fact that we have this level of rent subsidy within the island, may suggest that the rents asked is way too high, or that wages are way too low, but dont get me started on the minimum wage, a debate that i managed to hear on the radio. Those who were listeneing to those drawn out ramblings will know where i am coming from. The fact is there appears to be no money to fund the upkeep and expansion of social housing in our island and no means of funding. In two years time 25% of housing stock will not meet minimum UK standards. If the states were private landlords it would be doubtful that they would be allowed to rent non wind and watertight buildings, without a reduction in rent (farmworkers have minimum standards i believe) The rate of home ownership in Jersey is one of the lowest in the UK. For some of us, this is our last chance to purchase a fairly priced house (same prices as the new build at Le Squez) before we are too old to be able to get a morgage. To offer these States rental houses for sale would reduce the States maintenance yearly bill and give your ordinary working class people a chance to buy their own home and we can all enjoy a bit of homeownership as opposed to tipping our cash into the landlords pocket, and having nothing but a rental future for the families that some (most) States tenants have struggled to bring up. D Brown