

**QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES
COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY, 4th FEBRUARY 2003 BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN**

Question

At the end of 2002, the Statistics Unit released a survey on house prices.

- (a) Is the President confident that the method used to obtain the results was appropriate and accurate in view of the subsequent criticism of the survey by both the Jersey Estate Agents Association and by members of the Housing Committee?
- (b) Will the President inform members whether the Committee is taking action to ensure that any future surveys address all aspects of the concerns raised by the Jersey Estate Agents Association?

Answer

- (a) No, we need to be satisfied that the Jersey house price index reliably reflects price movements in the Island's housing market, and neither I nor the Head of Statistics is satisfied with the coverage of the present index and we are seeking ways to improve it.
- (b) The matter has been put on the agenda for the next meeting of the Statistics Users Group in February 2003 and I have asked that group to produce a report on its findings, together with any recommendations for the future. I am sure that the Statistics Users Group will take full account of the concerns raised by the Jersey Estates Agents Association.