

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING BY
DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 1st JULY 2008

Question

1. Given his response to my question concerning the Housing Needs Survey, when the Minister stated that he disagreed with my suggestion that the shortfall in 2, 3 and 4 bedroom accommodation had not been addressed, will he explain to members why the potential shortfall of such housing identified in the report has increased by two thirds?

Answer

Each housing needs survey is a snapshot in time, reflecting the circumstances pertaining at that time. Each Housing Needs Survey therefore covers the aspirations of people over differing time frames and under different economic circumstances.

The new 2007 housing needs survey was carried out at a time when the economy is performing strongly and not surprisingly demand is greater. This survey also sought to identify likely needs over the next 5 years to the end of 2012 – rather than just focusing on a single point in time.

Question

2. Will he inform members what number of (under 55) one-bed flats are under construction or have planning permission for 2008 and 2009, given that this was an area identified as over-supplied?

Answer

This is a question which would perhaps be better directed to the Planning and Environment Minister; however, through enquiries with his Department I have established that there are no robust statistics for housing units granted planning permission or under construction in 2008.