**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING
BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 15th JULY 2013**

Question

Would the Minister confirm the assurances that he has given to Le Squez Youth Club that they will be re-located on the opposite side of the road as part of Housing's re-development of the site, and will he give the latest estimate of when this might occur?

Answer

As the Deputy knows, the proposed relocation of the Le Squez Youth Club to a new location on land presently occupied by social rented homes at Le Squez was always contingent on an exchange of various parcels of land at Le Squez between Samares School and the Housing Department. Therefore it was by no means a certainty that the new facility would be built and no absolute assurances to that effect have been given.

It is fair to say that an in principle agreement for these exchanges of land had been in place since at least 2010 and the Housing Department hoped that the whole scheme including the Youth Club could be delivered. However, in September 2012 in response to an increase in pupil numbers it became clear that the School was going to require increases in parking provision and amenity space which meant that the land exchanges originally proposed were not going to be feasible and would not be pursued. However, many of the other benefits arising from the master plan relating to improvements to parking, providing safe pedestrian access routes through the estate and the creation of a direct link between the School and the FB Fields are still important features of the proposed scheme.

The existing Youth Club is structurally sound and capable of being refurbished or extended and the Education Department has a £2m bid in the States long term capital programme for 2017 to undertake this project. The redevelopment of all of Le Squez is to be completed over approximately the next 5 years meaning that should the Education Department's capital bid be successful the improved Youth Club could be delivered in a very similar timescale.