

**STATES RESOURCE PLAN 1998 (P.112/98):
FOURTH AMENDMENT**

**Lodged au Greffe on 16th June 1998
by the Housing Committee**



STATES OF JERSEY

STATES GREFFE

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In sub-paragraph (b) of the proposition after the words Appendix 5.2 insert the words with the addition of the sum of £110,000, to enable the Housing Committee to undertake certain major adaptations to its housing stock to provide suitably adapted accommodation to meet the needs of those persons with special housing needs, and to request the Finance and Economics Committee to make sufficient sums available for the project in the 1999 Budget.

HOUSING COMMITTEE

Report

The Housing Committee carries out on average two major adaptations to its housing stock each year in order to meet the more demanding needs of those persons who suffer from major disabilities - these could be from persons who have suffered major head or body injury that has left them in various degrees of paralysis. It could be from persons who need specially adapted homes to cope with their muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, and many other disabilities. Without these adaptations it would be almost impossible for these persons to live independently, or with their families, in the community.

These funds are needed to carry out significant structural changes to the existing accommodation or, where appropriate, to build ground floor extensions. Work normally includes specially adapted living accommodation, including bathrooms and toilets, the installation of hoists to move the person around the accommodation and the inclusion of environmental controls to provide the right heat and light etc. (The Committee already expends some £20,000 a year from its revenue vote to cover expenditure on the provision of ramp accesses, bath aids, stair lifts, etc).

The Committee, together with Housing Trusts, is designing into its new build programme accommodation suitable for identified special housing needs. For example, three homes on the OTC site have been adapted to meet the needs of three particular families, there will be similar adapted accommodation on the Belle Vue site and at Kent Lodge to meet specific immediate requirements. However, there are still families who live in the Committees accommodation who are struggling to live in accommodation which is clearly not suitable for their particular needs. The Committee is also aware that there are a significant number of disabled children passing through the education system, many of whom who are not housed in States rental accommodation who will possibly need support in the future.

The Committee previously carried out this work using surplus funds from within its rolling capital vote, but rolling votes have now been suspended and the Committee is required to ask for a separate capital vote.

The Committee understands that its request for this very limited funding was excluded from discussions at the Capital Workshop and therefore no funding provision has been made for next year to carry out these critical works. The absence of this funding means that those persons most in need will continue to suffer unreasonable hardship.