

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 31st JANUARY 2012**

Question

What additional powers, if any, will the Chief Minister have to control population under the Control of Housing and Work (Jersey) Law 201- and how does he propose to use them?

Answer

The Control of Housing and Work (Jersey) Law 201- has been drafted to ensure that the Minister has robust, extensive and readily enforceable legal powers to control the ability of newcomers to work and be housed in Jersey.

In particular, the following have been seen as significant improvements around our ability to manage the ability of newcomers to find work:

- All persons starting work must have a registration card clearly showing their residential status (Article 24) making it clear to employers and the Population Office what residential status every worker holds.
- The number of Registered and Licence persons that a business may employ will be capped, including powers to licence these employees on an individual named basis, and as to where they may live and for how long they may work for the undertaking (Article 27)
- All undertakings must provide statements of their employees (Article 32) at required periods which can be matched against registration records and the licence of the undertaking to ensure compliance.
- A licence may be varied, ceased, or revoked by the Minister as required (Articles 29,30 and 37) and powers as to obtaining information and entering premises are clarified (Articles 33,34,35).

As to housing, the following are seen as particularly beneficial:

- The Law will require all persons to confirm where they live, including Registered persons (Article 9) and will allow data to be obtained from any Department (Article 10) to keep these records up to date to support compliance with housing conditions.
- The new Law will require all new properties to be Qualified unless the Minister says otherwise with reference to the interests of persons with Entitled status (Article 15)

Further information can be found in P37/2011, "Draft Control of Housing and Work (Jersey) Law 201-, including a detailed report on the benefits of the Law.

These powers will be used to support and achieve the policies of the Assembly.