

STATES OF JERSEY



SAMARÈS NURSERY SITE, ST. CLEMENT: REMOVAL FROM DRAFT ISLAND PLAN – PETITION (P.131/2010) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 22nd December 2010
by the Minister for Planning and Environment**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The draft Island Plan was published for consultation in September 2009. The consultation closed on 31st March 2010. During the period of consultation I was requested by the Connétable of St. Clement to withdraw the site from draft Policy H1, which proposes that the Samares Nurseries site be designated as a site for Category A housing (for first-time buyers and Jersey Homebuy homes).

My response to the Connétable at that time was that the consultation process should run its course. It would confuse the public to make amendments to the draft Island Plan while comments were being sought, and the consultation itself would enable representations by all parties to be made and be considered by the independent planning inspectors who would be considering the draft Plan, and the representations on it, at the Examination in Public in September 2010.

While the Connétable's view has been material in leading to my decision not to include this site in final Draft Island Plan, it is not the only reason. The substantial petition which is the subject of this proposition is another factor.

Furthermore, there have been challenges to the stated requirement for new homes in the new Island plan, and I am awaiting the results of further work that is being undertaken jointly by the Chief Minister's, Housing and Planning and Environment Departments to establish with greater clarity the overall requirement for new homes, and the breakdown by type and tenure.

Once the revised housing requirements are known, it is my intention, should there be a shortfall in the requirements, to enter discussions with the Parishes to establish whether there are suitable sites that can be brought forward in the final Draft Island Plan.