

22.09.20

**7 Deputy L.J. Farnham of the Minister for Infrastructure regarding the housing development in Kensington Place (OQ.87/2022)**

Following the announcement by the Government that the housing development in Kensington Place has been paused, will the Minister inform the Assembly exactly what financial arrangements, if any, have been made with the developer?

**Deputy T. Binet of St. Saviour (The Minister for Infrastructure):**

The contractual arrangements for this site rest between Andium Homes and their chosen developer. As such, any financial arrangements will have to be agreed between these 2 parties and will not involve the Government of Jersey directly, certainly not at this stage.

**9.7.1 Deputy L.J. Farnham:**

I think to simplify the question: how much is it costing the taxpayer, does the Minister know?

**Deputy T. Binet:**

At this stage, I am afraid I have to tell the Deputy that I do not know; those discussions are still taking place.

**9.7.2 Deputy S.Y. Mézec:**

If it is a case that this is a matter between the developer and Andium Homes, if there is at some point to be any cost to Andium Homes for this delay, can the Minister give us his assurance that Andium Homes will be compensated for that?

**Deputy T. Binet:**

That is highly likely, yes.

**9.7.3 Deputy S.Y. Mézec:**

“Highly likely” is good. Can we do even better than that and say “a certainty”, after all, the Government can give that guarantee?

**Deputy T. Binet:**

Yes, why not? Yes, a firm yes. **[Laughter] [Approbation]**

**9.7.4 Deputy L.J. Farnham:**

Remembering back to my days as a Minister, I would have been severely chastised for making decisions without knowing the financial consequences, so I will ask another question. Does the Minister know roughly how long the delay will be to this vitally important development of affordable homes?

**Deputy T. Binet:**

As the Deputy knows, there is a review taking place which I think is due to be issued on the 20th and I cannot say very much more than that until that review comes out.