

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING  
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER**

**ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 1st MAY 2007**

**Question**

- a) Would the Minister inform members –
- (i) what proportion of the £2.5 million required to fund the 2007 States employees' pay award his department has had to absorb?
  - (ii) what measures have been taken to meet this additional cost?
  - (iii) whether such actions amount to service cuts or delays in certain activities, and
- b) Would the Minister place these in context of measures already taken in response to the need for efficiency savings for 2007?

**Answer**

- a) (i) The total cost of the pay award for Housing is £39,500, £11,200 is being provided by Treasury and £28,300 is absorbed by the department. The £28,300 absorbed represents 1.12 per cent of the total £2.5 million required to fund the 2007 States employees' pay award.
- (ii) The additional cost has been met by sacrificing some of the year to date favourable variance in staff costs. The year to date favourable variance in staff costs has arisen as a result of staff vacancies.
- (iii) The Housing maintenance budget would have benefited from the favourable variance in staff costs. However service cuts will not be required to fund this particular pay award.
- b) In total including the £28,300 from the pay award, the efficiency savings required to be delivered by Housing are £137,500 in addition to an approved service reduction of £190,000 in Housing Maintenance.