WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT BY SENATOR B.E. SHENTON ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 3rd MAY 2011

Question

Can the Minister confirm that he will implement the recommendations contained within the Committee of Inquiry: Reg's Skips - Planning Applications - Second Report (R.38) in a timely manner, including the adoption of a Code of Conduct for the Minister re Planning Decisions, and, if not, why not?

Answer

The Reg's Skips - Planning Applications - Second Report (R.38) contains a variety of recommendations all of which we will endeavour to implement. However the timescales suggested in the report may not be achievable.

Of particular note is the suggestion of a new appeals system. This is not simply the prerogative of the Planning and Environment Minister and the Court will need to be involved in discussions.

I am more than happy to implement a Ministerial Code of Conduct as soon as I receive the report of the Political Steering Group. I established a Political Steering Group comprising my Assistant Ministers, Deputy Duhamel and Deputy Egre, together with Senator Le Gresley and Deputy Le Herissier. This group will report to me and I will pass their report on to the States.