WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING BY DEPUTY D.J. DE SOUSA OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 11th MAY 2010

Question

"In light of the Minister's commitment in the Strategic Plan to Social Rented Housing, what measures, if any, has he taken in the last 4 years to regulate housing trusts?"

Answer

As members will well know, I commissioned a Fundamental Review of Social Housing in Jersey in 2007. That review was carried out by Professor Christine Whitehead OBE of the London School of Economics & Cambridge Centre for Housing & Planning Research.

One of the key terms of reference for the review, which were developed with the input of the Health, Social Security and Housing Scrutiny Sub-Panel, was to analyse the present regulatory structure applicable to social housing, compare it with regulation in other jurisdictions, and recommend a suitable framework for the future.

Professor Whitehead's report was published in October 2009 and was open for public consultation until March this year.

I have been considering the findings of the report and feedback from the consultation process and I plan to lodge a report and proposition setting out a number of policy matters, including regulation, later this year.

Any new regulation will have a cost attached to it. Ultimately it will be for States Members to decide what form that regulation should take and how it will be paid for.