

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES
BY DEPUTY J.H. YOUNG OF ST. BRELADE
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 30th JUNE 2014**

Question

Will the Minister inform the Assembly whether the Energy Efficiency Grants Scheme administered by the Planning and Environment Department, which has carried out a significant number of improvement works to privately owned properties funded by approximately £4 million from taxpayers, complies fully with the requirements of financial regulation policies issued under legislation governing public finances in Jersey and, in particular, whether there is adequate disclosure of works and whether arrangements need to be in place for identifying the enhanced value of such properties as a result of these improvements works, securing the public's interest in this enhanced value and ensuring its ultimate recovery to public funds in the event of onward sale of these properties, and if not, what action, if any, will he be taking to ensure that the scheme is revised to ensure that such arrangements are in place in the future?

Answer

The delivery of the Energy Efficiency Grants Scheme is the remit of the Planning and Environment Minister and all questions relating to its detailed operation and the policies it operates within should be directed to that Minister.

It is for the accounting officer of a department to satisfy him or herself that the activities of the Department comply with relevant legislation, to include financial directions issued by the Treasury under the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2005.

The Minister for Treasury and Resources can report that the service has been subject to a recent Internal Audit report initiated by the Environment department as part of a wider review of grants across the States. The Minister understands that the results have already been shared confidentially with the Environment Scrutiny Panel. The purpose of Internal Audit is to assist management. As such it is not appropriate for the Minister for Treasury and Resources to disclose the contents of an audit report.