STATES OF JERSEY



PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING RENTAL SUBSIDY SCHEMES (P.74/2003): AMENDMENTS

Lodged au Greffe on 24th June 2003 by Deputy A. Breckon of St. Saviour

STATES GREFFE

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING RENTAL SUBSIDY SCHEMES (P.74/2003) - AMENDMENTS

- (1) In the preamble paragraph delete the words "with effect from 1st January 2004";
- (2) In paragraph (a) after the words "for rental subsidy" insert the words ", with effect from 1st January 2004,";
- (3) In paragraph (b) after the words "£40 respectively" insert the words "when they are in full-time employment";
- (4) At the end of the proposition, after paragraph (e) insert the following paragraph –

"and to agree that the changes set out in paragraphs (b) to (e) above should not be introduced until a comprehensive new low income support scheme is put in place."

DEPUTY A. BRECKON OF ST. SAVIOUR

REPORT

The purpose of my amendments is to ensure that no hardship is caused to some people who are on very basic income or benefit and who may see their disposable income reduced through no fault of their own. Also I would wish to see adequate financial safeguards in place before any reductions in allowances or increases in charges.

The increases proposed in paragraph (b) are discriminatory where a young person may be unemployed or an elderly relative is being cared for.

It should be noted that in paragraph (a) of the proposition that the Housing Committee is 'benchmarking' an amount of £50,000 (with partners) as the level at which applicants will not qualify for a rental subsidy – this amount includes 'liquid or fixed assets with a value equal to or in excess of £50,000'. How would this then be addressed and applied by other Committees, to be consistent and non-discriminatory?!

There are no manpower implications. The financial implications to the Housing Committee are dependent upon the introduction of low income support.