

**QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSING COMMITTEE ON  
TUESDAY, 20th MAY 2003 BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER**

**Question**

On 13th May 2003, in reply to a question on rent rebate/abatement, the Vice-President refused to confirm whether the Committee intends to change the calculation for assessment of rent rebate/abatement to reduce the benefit payable to recipients. Will the President inform members –

- (a) whether the Committee intends considering changes to the rent rebate/abatement scheme, and, if so, when?
- (b) whether these changes will reduce the total payable in rent rebate/abatement by up to £800,000 annually? and,
- (c) whether consideration will be given by the Committee to raising the surcharge on adult children and lodgers to raise a further £400,000 from States tenants, and, if so, when?

**Answer**

Yes, the Committee is considering changes to the rent rebate/abatement scheme but, as was stated when this subject was raised on 13th May 2003, the Committee is reviewing a number of methods of balancing its proposed significantly reduced budget for 2004. I do not consider it helpful to make any announcement about individual options before the Committee has completed its deliberations.