

**QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSING COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY  
20th JANUARY 2004, BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER**

**Question 1**

The President recently announced a number of evictions carried out by the Housing Committee over recent months. Will the President inform members of—

- (a) the total number of evictions that are currently being pursued?
- (b) the number of families evicted in recent months?
- (c) the number of evictions for reasons of anti-social behaviour on the part of tenants? and,
- (d) the number of evictions for rent arrears?

**Answer**

- (a) In the six months ending 31st December 2003, the Committee authorised the Department to take action through the Court, if necessary, to evict a total of 30 tenants. 25 of these cases primarily involved rent arrears but for some anti-social behaviour was also a factor considered by the Committee. One case involved purely anti-social behaviour and the remaining 4 were tenants refusing to transfer to suitable alternative accommodation.

Out of the 30 cases, 11 are still being pursued, 4 have moved to the private sector, 4 transferred to alternative Committee accommodation, 5 have paid rent arrears in full and 6 have made arrangements for repayments of arrears which has resulted in the eviction proceedings being halted.

- (b, c, and d)

In the last 6 months only 1 tenant has been evicted by the Viscount as a result of a Court Order. This tenant was evicted for anti-social behaviour and there have been no evictions by the Court for rent arrears in this period.

**Question 2**

Will the President inform members –

- (a) how many tenants have been affected by the change to the income disregard allowance for invalidity and disability benefits contained in P.74/2003? and,
- (b) how many of these tenants saw rises in their rent payable of –
  - (i) greater than ten per cent?
  - (ii) greater than 25 per cent?

**Answer**

- (a) 729 Committee tenants and 221 private sector tenants have been affected by the changes to the income disregard allowance for Invalidity and Disability benefits contained in P.74/2003.
- (b) As a result of the changes to the disregard allowance for Invalidity and Disability benefits as well as the overall reduction in the generosity of the subsidy schemes and, in some cases, non-dependent surcharges, 136 tenants saw rises in their rent payable of between 10% and 25% and 162 tenants saw rises greater than 25%

with effect from 1st January 2004 , broken down as follows-

**Committee tenants**

Less than 10% increase	490
Between 10% and 25%	111
Over 25%	128

Total	729
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**Private Sector**

Less than 10% increase	162
Between 10% and 25%	25
Over 25%	34

Total	221
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