

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING  
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER**

**ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2008**

**Question**

Will the Minister confirm whether or not there is any demand for additional 3-bed houses to be provided in the States rental sector, and, if not, would he provide members with the evidence he has to support this view in light of the proposal to offer such housing for sale as part of the shared equity scheme?

**Answer**

The demand for three bedroom social rented homes has steadily reduced during 2007. The chart below shows the exact numbers, both on the Waiting List and the Department's internal Transfer List. I am confident that with the completion of sites due this year, such as Field 40, St Clement (10 x three bed homes) and Field 690a, St Martin (19 x three bed homes) there is no current need for further three bedroom social rented units.

Overall demand is greatest for one bedroom accommodation, Existing States Tenants currently under-occupying their accommodation would willingly move to smaller 'life-long' accommodation, if available, thus enabling their larger homes to be 'recycled'.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total	<b>110</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>91</b>
W/L	20	20	25	18	25	17	16	16	18	18	16	18
Transfers	90	90	93	94	83	101	86	89	89	84	80	73

It is quite possible over the lifetime of the Property Plan that former States Tenants now living in Trust accommodation would wish to take advantage of the shared equity scheme thus making available their homes for recycling. With home ownership at a low level in Jersey, it is important that we encourage those that can afford it, the opportunity to purchase a property of their own.