

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING
BY THE DEPUTY OF GROUVILLE
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 19th JULY 2010**

Question

Would the Minister advise whether persons arrested on arrival in the Island, who are then sentenced to more than 11 years at H.M.P La Moye, can actually gain their Housing Qualifications whilst in Prison whilst never having worked in the Island or had any real connection to it?

Answer

In the circumstances outlined of a person arrested on arrival in the Island, who becomes subject to a long prison sentence, that person would NOT normally be deemed to be accruing a period of ordinary residence that would ultimately allow them to qualify for housing consent under the Housing (General Provisions) (Jersey) Regulations 1970.

Instead, the Minister looks to where a person is *ordinarily* resident, with reference to their choice of residence, and their normal, or settled place of residence.

So, for example, there are applications for residential qualifications made by individual prisoners who will be immediately pre-release, but who were established residents, perhaps being locally born, before going into Prison. These are persons whom the Probation Service are looking to support back into the local community with regard to housing and employment, and who have firm local connections.

In each case, the varied and often complex circumstances would be considered to establish the place of ordinary residence.