

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING
BY DEPUTY T.A. VALLOIS OF ST. SAVIOUR
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 16th APRIL 2013**

Question

Could the Minister advise how many social housing units have been built since the beginning of rent rebate/abatement per annum and how much of the Housing Department's income has been returned to the Treasury per year during the same period?

Answer

Firstly, I would like to point out a very clear distinction between Income Support process and the old Rent Rebate and Abatement scheme. There was no annual return made to the Treasury Department with Rent Rebate or Abatement scheme, the cost of which was covered by the then Housing Committees existing budget.

The Rent Rebate and Abatement scheme was put into place in May 1990.

The Department of Environment monitors housing supply on an annual basis, they keep records based on net completions (i.e. completed homes minus homes lost through demolition, conversion etc).

The attached table shows the net annual completions of purpose built social rented homes since 1990. It shows that a net total of some 1561 such homes have been built up to the end of 2012 according to the Department of Environment's records.

The current Income Support Scheme was implemented in 2008 and the Housing Departments annual return to Treasury is also listed on the table below for those years.

Social rented housing completions 1990-2012

Table 1: Social rented homes completed since 1990 (net)

Year	Net completions of purpose built social rented homes	Return to Treasury Department
1990	130	n/a
1991	75	n/a
1992	130	n/a
1993	86	n/a
1994	197	n/a
1995	50	n/a
1996	70	n/a

1997	(-137)	n/a
1998	51	n/a
1999	78	n/a
2000	60	n/a
2001	26	n/a
2002	290	n/a
2003	30	n/a
2004	59	n/a
2005	26	n/a
2006	207	n/a
2007	77	n/a
2008	(-74)	£21.8M
2009	45	£21.5M
2010	2	£18.7M
2011	(-10)	£21.5M
2012	93	£24.4M
TOTAL	1561	