

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY
BY DEPUTY R.J. WARD OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 9th MARCH 2020**

Question

How much was paid in housing benefit to tenants in private rented dwellings in 2019; and how many of these tenants were paying rent above Social Security housing benefits levels?

Answer

Preliminary figures for 2019 indicate that £9.2 million of Income Support expenditure was provided as housing benefit support for private rented dwelling costs. The final expenditure figure will be confirmed following completion of the external audit and formal approval of the Government Accounts for 2019.

48% of private sector tenants in 2019 had rental levels above the maximum rate of Income Support accommodation component available.

In some cases, the additional rent reflects the tenant occupying a dwelling larger than required for the household size. Excluding these tenants, 40% of private sector tenants had rental levels above the maximum rate of Income Support accommodation component available.