

2021.09.14

9 Senator S.Y. Mézec of the Minister for Housing and Communities regarding calculating social housing rents (OQ.196/2021)

Will the Minister advise what progress, if any, has been made on bringing forward a new system for calculating social housing rents?

Deputy R. Labey of St. Helier (The Minister for Housing and Communities):

Well the *Creating Better Homes: An Action Plan* reaffirms the commitment in the 2021 Government Plan to review social housing rents policy. That is underway. I can assure the Senator it is being taken very seriously. The discussions are involved and exhaustive and I commend the board of management at Andium and government officers who were involved with those discussions. Also, it is pretty high level with both the C.E.O. of the States of Jersey, Paul Martin, and the chairman of Andium, Richard McCarthy, taking an active interest, and I am grateful to them for that. So, we have said we will finish that review by the end of the year with an option or options presented to the Council of Ministers and take it from there, and that is a timetable I intend to stick to.

8.9.1 Senator S.Y. Mézec:

He refers to his housing report which refers to the 2021 Government Plan commitment which says, and I quote: "Further proposals will be brought forward in 2021 to review the social housing rents policy which will be accounted for in the next Government Plan." Well we are due to see the next Government Plan next week, I believe, in a briefing, so can he confirm that we will see action on social housing rents in that Government Plan as his own housing action plan confirmed there would be?

Deputy R. Labey:

Yes, I can. There will be something in the Government Plan.