

STATES OF JERSEY



ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2007: PROPERTY PLAN (P.34/2007) – AMENDMENT (P.34/2007 AMD.)– COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 13th April 2007
by the Minister for Treasury and Resources**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

Deputy Breckon's amendment requests the States to remove the Samarès School Houses 1 and 2 from the list of property recommended for disposal in 2007. His main argument is that these properties could be better used to provide staff with accommodation which otherwise has to be leased from the private sector.

The reason that these properties are being recommended for sale is that they are no longer required as staff accommodation by the Education, Sport and Culture Department nor by other departments of the States. In particular, the Health and Social Services Department, which is the largest States provider of staff accommodation, has no immediate need for this type of dwelling. In addition, Property Holdings is retaining and making available for rent to staff, if required, two houses at Howard Davis Farm, as well as one in St. Mary and one in St. Saviour.

Deputy Breckon refers to three transactions reported to the States in R.6, R.17 and R.22/2007, citing them as examples of the States paying inflated rents to private landlords in order to house staff. The ministerial decisions related to these reports, published on the States website, do not refer to staff as none of these transactions relate to staff accommodation. Two of the transactions relate to property which is part of the Le Seelleur portfolio and is being leased **by** the States to private individuals.

In these circumstances the Minister does not support this amendment.