

STATEMENT BY THE GSLP/LIBERAL OPPOSITION 107/2005
10 November 2005

Shadow Minister for Housing The Hon Charles Bruzon

The Opposition considers that it is totally unacceptable that one of the two lifts in Referendum House, one of the tower blocks, has been out of action for nearly four months.

In September, following representations from tenants of the building, the Opposition made the issue public and called on the Government to give the matter some urgency.

The Opposition has again been approached and told that nothing has been done.

It has also been reported by the tenants that the continued delay is because the Government are waiting for a spare part to arrive. It is deplorable that now, two months have gone by since the issue was drawn to the public attention, and the problem remains exactly the same and the lift has still not been repaired.

There are two lifts in the building, one stops on odd number floors and the other on even number floors. The Opposition warned in September that when the other lift broke down, it would leave many tenants stranded or housebound with no option but to walk up or down the stairs if they were able to.

Since the Opposition issued that statement in September, the tenants report that this can and has actually happened and that on occasions the second lift had broken down as well and when it does it takes several hours to get it going.

Commenting on the matter, Shadow Minister for Housing Charles Bruzon said that the Opposition failed to understand why the Government is taking such a long time to repair the faulty lift at Referendum House.

Tenants are already asking themselves whether the same delay would have ensued if the lift at Convent Place had broken down.

ENDS