

**STATEMENT BY THE GSLP/LIBERAL OPPOSITION 120/2005**  
**7 December 2005**

Shadow Minister for Housing Charles Bruzon will raise the problems being experienced by prospective purchasers of Rosia Court at the meeting of the House of Assembly which opens on Friday. For his part Shadow Minister for Education Steven Linares will raise the issue of bullying in schools.

Mr Bruzon has tabled a total of 56 questions for the Government to answer, 8 of which are to do with Rosia Court. He will ask Government to confirm what was the original completion date set for the sale of Rosia Court and will want to know how many prospective purchasers have completed their purchase as at 30 November 2005. Mr Bruzon will also ask Government to confirm whether asbestos has been found at any of the properties at Rosia Court, and wants Government to say how many properties were damaged as a result of works that have taken place there.

On a separate matter, the Opposition Housing Spokesman will also press the Government on the question of the faulty lift at Referendum House. He will also ask Government to confirm the handover date for the flats at Chilton Court and whether these would be immediately available to the housing department for persons on the waiting list or would require refurbishment before being allocated. Mr Bruzon has also tabled a question which seeks to establish how many empty Government dwellings are presently refurbished or in the hands of Buildings and Works for refurbishment. In relation to Waterport Terraces, Mr Bruzon will ask the Government to say of the 1112 applications received by the closing date, how many were for applicants on the pre-list for housing and how many were from applicants on the housing waiting list proper.

In his capacity as Shadow Minister for Social Services, Mr Bruzon wants the Government to state what procedure is followed to help young people with a drug addiction who, because of their age, cannot be admitted into Bruce's Farm. He will also quiz the Government on the issue of respite care, wanting them to confirm that 800 hours a month was provided in the current financial year for this purpose. On the same subject he will ask Government to state how much of the amount provided for respite care in the estimates has been spent up to 30 September of the current financial year.

For his part, Shadow Minister for Education, Training, Youth and Culture Steven Linares has tabled 40 questions for the Government to answer. He will ask the Government to say how much has been spent on maintenance of schools in this financial year. Mr Linares also wants Government to state what provisions have been or will be made within the South District to cater for the inevitable demographic move of people after the announced new building projects are completed. He will also ask Government to state whether an educational impact study has been conducted by the Department of Education as to the implications of the demographic move of people to the south district in the near future.

Also on education matters, Mr Linares wants Government to state how many pupils were suspended from school in the 2004/2005 academic year and in 2005 to date. In the same time period, the Shadow Education Minister also wants to know how many pupils have left school by the age of 15 with a breakdown by school and term. Mr Linares has also tabled a question to establish whether there has been any progress on the relocation of St Bernard's School. He also wants to know whether there has been any consultation by Government in relation to the community use of schools with users of the facilities, in order that this use can now begin earlier now that school finishes earlier.

In his capacity as Opposition spokesman for Culture, Steven Linares will quiz the Government on the refurbishment of the Ince's Hall Theatre. He will ask for details of the financial cost involved and also what provisions have been made in the refurbishment for disabled persons to access the Hall. Mr Linares will also ask whether the Youth Service or the Department of Education have been consulted in relation to the facilities which will be made available in the leisure centre.

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