

STATEMENT BY THE GSLP/LIBERAL OPPOSITION

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Shadow Minister for Housing Charles Bruzon will ask Government to say whether a certificate of fitness has now been issued in respect of any of the blocks at Waterport Terraces. Mr Bruzon has tabled over 70 questions for the Government to answer on a wide range of housing matters.

In relation to Waterport Terraces also, Mr Bruzon will want to know what further work is required to be carried out in the estate. He will want Government to state what the current estimated date of completion is for Albert Risso House, and will ask for details of how many flats are currently still awaiting completion at Waterport Terraces.

The Opposition Housing spokesman will also probe the Government's home ownership schemes in the south district. He will ask Government to say how many purchasers of flats within these schemes have had to pull out because they have been unable to obtain a mortgage. Mr Bruzon will ask for details of the sale of the apartments in Bayview, Cumberland Terraces and Nelson's View. He will also want to know the estimated dates of completion for each of them and how many persons are listed as applicants in their respective reserve lists.

Charles Bruzon will also seek information from Government on the number of cases that the housing tribunal has dealt with and completed and those which are currently pending. He will further press Government on how many decisions of the Housing Tribunal requiring action by the Housing Department have not yet been implemented by that Department.

The Shadow Housing Minister will ask Government to say how much has been paid to Otis for the repair and maintenance of lifts in Government housing estates in each financial year since they took responsibility for this. He will also ask how many lifts are covered by the contract, where they are located and whether tenants have the option of reporting a lift to the Ministry for Housing or to Otis in Spain directly.

Mr Bruzon has tabled a number of questions on the housing waiting lists, including specific questions on the social and medical lists. He will want Government to say how many persons are currently on category "A" in the social list and will want to know on which date each person was included in it. Mr Bruzon has also tabled a question to establish the current estimated date of completion of the remaining new lift at Referendum House. He will also ask when the Ministry for Housing plans to complete the work of painting the entrance area and stairwell of Constitution House.