

**91. Accommodation for Vulnerable Young People –
Quality assessment of private sector housing**

The Hon. Member for Onchan (Mr Callister) to ask the Minister for Health and Social Care:

Pursuant to the Select Committee Report on Accommodation for Vulnerable Young People, what work has been undertaken to assess the quality of the private sector housing occupied by each individual care leaver and estranged young person and, where necessary, support such persons to obtain more suitable accommodation?

The Minister for Health and Social Care (Mr Ashford): This recommendation of the Select Committee has not been concluded. Progress was put on hold during the COVID-19 response.

All of the recommendations of the Select Committee will now be consolidated in the development of a Homeless Strategy, led by the Cabinet Office with input from DHSC, DHA and DoI.

Currently care leavers and estranged young people are provided with the Aftercare Service, which supports young people to identify the most suitable accommodation for them in terms of both standards, location and accessibility.

In the long term the issue of accommodation standards will be addressed through new primary legislation – the forthcoming Landlord Registration Bill. This consolidates existing condition standards and introduces management standards to regularise the private rented sector in recognition of the important role of private landlords in the provision of suitable accommodation, and create a national register of private landlords on the Island.

This Bill is currently out for public consultation.