

SEWERAGE SERVICE FEES, COUNTRY TOWNS

214. Hon Barry House to the Minister for Government Enterprises

- (1) Is the Minister aware of significant concern from Bridgetown, and other country towns, about the cost of sewerage service fees?
- (2) Is the Minister aware that this concern arises out of the Water Corporation using Gross Rental Values in Country areas, in contrast to a user pays volumetric system in the metropolitan area?
- (3) Does the Minister consider this to be fair and equitable, or just another cost impost country residents have to bear?
- (4) What plans do the Gallop Government have to address the situation?

Hon N.D. GRIFFITHS replied:

- (1) Yes
- (2) Yes and this method of calculation of sewer rates has been in place for many many years
- (3) Current charges applicable are reflective of the cost of sewerage services on a town-by-town basis with an upper limit of 12 cents in the dollar of the applicable gross rental value (GRV)
- (4) Water Corporation has started to collect data for analysis and modelling of financial alternatives. When results from those financial models are available this will show what alternatives method of charges might apply and the timing thereof insuring that customers who currently are paying for those services will benefit.