

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
BY DEPUTY R.J. WARD OF ST. HELIER CENTRAL
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 19th JUNE 2023
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 26th JUNE 2023**

Question

“Will the Minister advise –

- (a) the total payment from Government to Libertybus so far this year and the projected cost for the whole year;
- (b) how much income is received annually by Libertybus from fares, in addition to payments from Government; and
- (c) whether the town ‘hopper’ bus is paid for entirely by Government grant; as a combination of grant and fare income; or is funded entirely from fare income?”

Answer

The answers given to OQ.70/2020 and WQ.317/2020 provide an indication of the quantum of payments made in previous years. The difference in respect of 2023 will be represented by annual uplifts for inflation as provided for by the relevant clause in the Bus Operator Contractor, and the higher burden upon Government of additional concessionary fare reimbursements because of States Assembly decisions to extend free or discounted travel to more groups. No further information will be disclosed in relation to this during the tender period for the next Bus Operator Contract as it will set an expectation for tendered of the value of assistance that they might receive and consequentially it is considered to be commercially sensitive.

(b)

The fare revenue is commercially confidential and cannot be disclosed without the consent of LibertyBus.

(c)

The Townlink bus service, currently comprising services 20 and 24, is operated on a fixed cost basis and no further reimbursement is made for any form of concessionary fares recorded in respect of passenger journeys on these routes. A small amount of on-bus revenue, for example from those paying single fares, is collected on the Townlink service and is retained by LibertyBus.