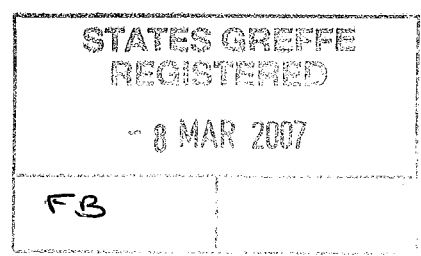


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G. J. Growers Ltd

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Scrutiny Panel
Scrutiny Office.
States Greffe.
Mourier House.
St.Helier.

February 12th.2007

New Supermarket.

I wish to express the following opinions.

Local businesses will certainly suffer due to the ruthless power of the multi-national supermarket chains. Their appetite for the sale of any item which is at present sold by the small retailer, such as newspapers and electrical equipment, as loss leaders, which will force small local shops out of business. This will further reduce shops and diminish the character of Jersey.

Jobs will certainly be lost as any large supermarkets will bring in their own trained management team and they in turn will bring in their friends to take up lower management jobs leaving just the lower paid jobs going to local people.

I am involved in the horticultural growing business with the large proportion of my produce being exported to the U.K. supermarkets. We have over the past couple of years seen many of them return to regional pricing, that is to say that the very low prices and special price offers are only available at the larger out of town hypermarket type stores, and there is little doubt that any store in Jersey due to the low population will not enjoy the cheaper prices.

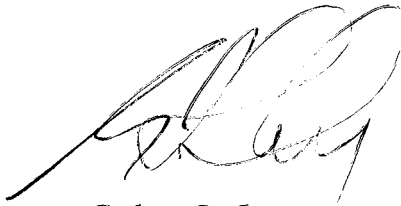
If you take M.and S. who still employs mono pricing, they have had to introduce a Jersey 5% premium on all food products. Despite the fact that they are the most expensive in the U.K. and add a percentage in Jersey, their shelves are frequently empty due to the high demand, which serves to prove that the majority of consumers want quality at any price rather than poor quality at a low price.

If a multi-national store were allowed into Jersey I would want to see government through the Planning and Environment Department or the Economic Development Department specify that a proportion of their floor space be dedicated to local produce, they do impose a restriction on Jersey farm shops that their floor space must be 75% local products so why not put a similar restriction on any incoming or existing supermarket.

I strongly believe that governments desire to see a multi-national supermarket open in Jersey is not based on what is necessarily good for the Island as a whole, but much more to do with wanting to give the existing operators a hard time.

Jersey's unique character must be maintained at all cost, and the flashing lights of a multi-national supermarket will further erode our uniqueness.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Le Lay', written in a cursive style.

Graham Le Lay