WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 12th OCTOBER 2010

Question

Will the Minister advise whether the States Tug has been in Rotterdam or elsewhere off-Island for a refit and, if so, would he provide a detailed breakdown of the works undertaken and the costs?

Would the Minister further advise whether any crew stayed with the vessel and, if so, what were the associated costs and how long was the crew off-Island?

Is the pilot vessel Rival undergoing a refit and, if so, would the Minister give details of the works being undertaken, by whom and the estimated costs?

Answer

As has been widely reported in the media, the Duke of Normandy was taken to Hardinxvelt in Holland for a refit and standard five year inspection as required by the Classification Society. The vessel was built and delivered in 2005, underwent first refit in 2007 and was therefore due for a refit and 5 year special survey in 2010.

The final account has not yet been agreed and settled, however the total cost of the refit and inspection will fall within the budget of £210,000 as approved by the States in the 2010 Business Plan.

The cost of the re-fit includes:

- Main engine servicing
- Hydraulic crane overhaul
- Propeller shaft withdrawal and inspection
- 5 year special survey
- Bottom survey
- Bottom painting and replacement of anodes
- Alterations to towing winch to better assist with ploughing and other operations
- Hydraulic chain pin to assist in buoyage maintenance
- Safety boat and launching device
- Steaming time and fuel to and from yard
- Return flights to yard
- Accommodation for supervising crew when vessel in shed

Crew members were away from the Island for differing periods but at least one member of the crew remained with the vessel at all times to supervise works and undertaking some of the work themselves. Crew members slept on board whenever possible. Costs and expenses associated with the re-fit were approximately £28,000. This includes costs associated with getting the boat to and from Holland, and crew working outside normal hours during the refit to ensure work could be completed as quickly as possible and reduce the time the tug was out of service.

The pilot vessel Rival is being fitted with new engines and enhanced navigation gear. The engines are being supplied locally and will be fitted by the crew, with assistance from other local contractors. The agreed budget for this project is £150,000.

Both projects are financed by the Jersey Harbours Trading Fund.