QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY, 18th FEBRUARY 2003 BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN

Question

- (a) As the new transport centre plans have been agreed, can the President explain the rationale of using the Island Site instead of the Weighbridge, when a report prepared by Public Transportation Consultants Steer Davies Gleave, which was made public in July 1999, stated that there was no need to move the bus station from the Weighbridge.
- (b) Could the President inform members of the cost of the Steer Davies Gleave Report?

Answer

(a) The Deputy's question appears to be based on an incorrect assumption as the Committee has not yet received an application for the Island site from the Waterfront Enterprise Board Limited.

However, the States have decided on three occasions that the Transportation Centre should be located on the Island Site:

- (i) during the 1987 Island Plan debate;
- (ii) in December 1997 on the WEB debate; and,
- (iii) in the 2002 Island Plan debate.

During 1999, Steer Davies Gleave were advisors jointly to the former Public Services and Planning and Environment Committees on the layout of the new transportation centre. They advised that, on the one hand, the Weighbridge was slightly more convenient to bus users from the centre of town; however, and on the other hand, it was recognised that the existing location offered no possibility for future expansion. Steer Davies Gleave's opinion was also qualified, being subject to a further survey of the existing bus operation carried out under summer peak conditions.

The former Public Services Committee did not accept its consultants' suggested layout for the Weighbridge as it had major concerns about traffic movements and the potential effects of congestion in the Fort Regent tunnel.

The former Public Services and Planning and Environment Committees together accepted Steer Davies Gleave's recommended option for the Island Site, with a layout which informed the Planning brief.

(b) The consultant's fee for all the advice which culminated in its report was £14,450.