QUESTIONS TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 1st APRIL 2003, BY SENATOR P.V.F. LE CLAIRE

Question 1

Up to ten new member states will join the European Union in May 2004. The United Kingdom has already declared that nationals of the new member states will enjoy free movement of labour.

Will the President inform members whether the Policy and Resources Committee will be reconsidering the matter of work permits as a method of controlling population in the absence of any other policy relating to the free movement of EU labour in the Island?

Answer

The new Policy and Resources Committee will be considering its proposals on population and migration, including what, if any, controls might be proposed to monitor and control inward migration later this week. I cannot of course prejudge the outcome of those considerations, but I think I can say that whereas a residents' licensing scheme is being considered, a more limited work permit system, as I would understand it, is not on the agenda.

Question 2

Will the President inform members when the Policy and Resources Committee will bring forward for debate its proposals for a population policy, P.205/2002 lodged 'au Greffe' on 5th November 2002, and provide an explanation of the reasons for the delay, if applicable?

Answer

The Policy and Resources Committee considered the former Committee's proposition, P.205/2002, on 22nd January 2003, and, at that meeting decided that further work needed to be done, before bringing new proposals forward. The matter is being considered at a special half day meeting of the Committee on Friday of this week.