WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION BY DEPUTY M. TADIER OF ST. BRELADE ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 24TH MAY 2016

Question

Will the Minister provide a list detailing what telecommunication devices, including transmitters and receivers, are placed on which school buildings; who they belong to; what rent is paid and to whom for the positioning of such devices; when they were placed there and what consultation, if any, was conducted with staff, parents and pupils before they were installed?

Answer

All States schools now use the JT Fibre service for their internet connection and this is delivered via underground cabling.

The previous service, provided via a Newtel microwave link, was turned off in early 2015. Some redundant equipment remains in place on a number of schools pending removal by Newtel. These are Bel Royal, Grands Vaux, Highlands College, Grainville, Haute Vallée, Victoria College Prep, Jersey College for Girls, La Moye, Mont a l'Abbé and St Saviour's. Before the Newtel service was installed in 2002 the Medical Officer of Health at the time was consulted. She advised that the equipment did not pose a public health risk. There is no record of public consultation at the time.

In addition, there is commercial equipment belonging to Newtel on the roof of Les Quennevais and within the lift shaft. This is due to be removed during the May half term break when there is no disruption to students.

Jersey Property Holdings has confirmed that there is currently no telecoms equipment on any school roof for which the public receive a rent or there is a licence agreement in place.