

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 24th MARCH 2015**

Question

What measures, if any, has the Minister, as shareholder representative, taken to facilitate a resolution to the problems between CH2M, GFF, JT and the Gigabit workforce, and if none, can he inform members what he will propose to bring about resolution?

Will the Minister further inform members what rates of connection are currently being achieved and what measures, if any, are in place to ensure the delivery of the scheme within the original timescale and budget?

Answer

As previously reported, following the presentation given by senior executives from JT on 19 January 2015 (which the Deputy kindly attended) there was an intensive programme of engagement planned during which, as stated in that presentation, JT committed to “work with CH2M to find a long term solution to their losses. If one cannot be found then other options will be explored, including JT completing the programme itself or working with another partner.” JT are aiming to complete this step by June 2015.

These discussions are progressing and while JT is in no doubt as to the Minister’s expectations in terms of resolving this issue, the Minister is also giving JT management appropriate space to complete this work. The Minister met senior executives from CH2M’s Denver headquarters last week and delivered precisely the same message that the current situation was unacceptable and had to be resolved as a matter of urgency.

Current rates of connections are running at approximately 70 per week but importantly success rates from the smaller team working on the programme are at a high of 80%. In the presentation referred to above, it is clear that the result of the negotiation with the key supplier is a central element to reassessing the timescale and budget required to complete the remaining elements of the programme.