WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2008

Question

Having announced that the provision for a pay award for States employees in 2009 will be based on RPI(Y) (inflation less impact of GST and housing costs) and that this has been set in the 2008 Business Plan at 2%, but that RPI(Y) is already 3.9% what plans, if any, does the Minister have to accommodate these changed conditions following the decision to fund the Energy from Waste plant from the Consolidated Fund?

Answer

There is only provision for a 2% pay award for public sector employees from June 2009 within the 2009 Business Plan.

The level of public expenditure, including the provision for pay awards is agreed by the States in the Business Plan debate. Any States member could have proposed an amendment to the Business Plan to increase public expenditure to finance a higher level of pay award, but none has chosen to do so.

Accordingly the only way a pay award in excess of 2% could be financed in 2009, within the cash limits set by the States, is by cutting services to the public. The decision to fund the EfW plant from the Consolidated Fund does not alter the situation in any way.