

2016.04.12

4.3 Deputy R.J. Renouf of St. Ouen of the Minister for Infrastructure regarding the findings of a recent Complaints Board regarding the Connex bus contract:

What is the Minister's response to the findings of a recent Complaints Board regarding the actions taken in accordance with clause 18.3 of the Connex bus contract and, given the board's recommendation in paragraph 6.2 of its findings, what steps, if any, will he take to ensure that the situation which gave rise to the complaint could not happen again?

Deputy E.J. Noel of St. Lawrence (The Minister for Infrastructure):

Firstly I would like to thank the Complaints Board for their hard work and professionalism in what was a complex and time-consuming case, as well, of course, the Deputy himself in his previous role as the chair of that board who considered the parties' initial submission. I was, of course, pleased that the board did not uphold Unite's complaint and found that my predecessor had interpreted his duties absolutely correctly, which I never doubted. Given the interests and coverage at the time I suggest that it is informative for Members to read this report and I urge them to do so, if they have not already done so. I am also happy to confirm that the equivalent of clause 18.3 was updated in line with modern U.K. bus transfer practice to ensure that a similar situation, whereby the Minister's ability to obtain the information is frustrated by others hoping to gain, cannot indeed happen again. The success of the new bus service is testament to the co-operation, hard work and professionalism of all involved from the LibertyBus staff at all levels to my officers, and this is in the spirit we would like to move forward.

4.3.1 The Deputy of St. Ouen:

Could the Minister advise the Assembly when the bus contract is up for renewal?

Deputy E.J. Noel:

I am not sure of that date off the top of my head but I will obtain it and forward it to all Members.

The Deputy of St. Ouen:

I am grateful to the Minister for his answer.