

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 8th DECEMBER 2009**

Question

“On 2nd June 2009 in response to a question regarding the level of bank lending to Islanders the Minister stated that he had established an informal bankers forum, which has representatives from the Jersey Bankers Association including all but one of the high street banks and one of the secondary lenders. Would the Minister advise the Assembly:

- a) the names of the bodies that comprise the informal group;
- b) how many times that it has met to discuss bank lending;
- c) how many times it met to discuss depositor compensation;
- d) whether he will publish the agenda and minutes of these meetings and, if so, when?”

Answer

As I have stated in answer to Question 4997, the Bankers Forum comprises members of the main banking groups in Jersey. It is not intended to meet on a regular basis but when appropriate issues present themselves that require discussion outside of the Jersey Bankers Association meetings.

The Forum met twice in 2009 to discuss issues including bank lending in confidence to facilitate open and frank conversation. Therefore it would not be appropriate to record or publish the minutes. The Forum did not discuss deposit compensation.