

STATES OF JERSEY

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ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2007 (P.92/2006): SIXTH AMENDMENT

Lodged au Greffe on 29th August 2006
by Deputy R.G. Le Hérissier of St. Saviour

STATES GREFFE

ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2007 (P.92/2006): SIXTH AMENDMENT

In paragraph (a)(ix) after the words “pages 104 and 105 of the Annex” insert the words –

– “except that in Objective 4, on page 104 of the Annex, for the words “*Increased number of bus passengers*” substitute the words –

- *Public Transport Strategy presented to the Assembly by 30th June 2007 with all viable options identified and costed.”*

DEPUTY R.G. LE HÉRISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR

REPORT

The understanding of members is that the previous Transport Strategy was withdrawn in the early days of Ministerial Government and that a revised version would follow. On 31st January 2006, in response to questions in the Assembly following a statement, the Minister indicated that the revised Strategy would be published within 3 months. Whilst the Minister of Transport and Technical Services has since announced various initiatives and, at times, appears to have assumed the role of Marketing Manager for Public Transport, there has been no sighting of the revised Strategy.

What initiatives have surfaced seem to suggest that the Strategy is essentially about increasing passenger numbers. If so, this is short-sighted. The level of subsidy is unsustainable. Whilst the Minister may bring about a gradual decline in subsidy, I would suggest emphasis should be placed at this stage on radical solutions and on looking at a variety of alternative solutions. Simply trying to make the best of a “bad job” is not the way forward.

This situation cannot be allowed to drift any longer – hence the proposal of a Report with all options laid out and costed – a ‘green paper’ on public transport.

There are no additional financial or manpower implications from this amendment as the Minister has already indicated that the preparation of a revised Strategy is being undertaken.