

**QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 13th MAY 2003,
BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT**

Question

Would the President advise members –

- (a) the number of staff, the number of vehicles and the cost per mile incurred for main road white line painting, and whether the cost of the current process has been compared with any other methods available, and, if so, would he give details? and
- (b) whether this work has been put out to tender and, if not, why not?

Answer

- (a) The total cost for providing road signs and paint markings on the Island main roads in 2002 was £374,523. The Department does not allocate costs to paint markings separately but this is estimated at 70% of the total figure.

There are 255 kilometres of main roads and the cost equates to approximately £1,028.10/km. There are six staff and one vehicle permanently employed on this task.

The Department has traditionally used thermoplastic (hot applied) paints but are currently evaluating, as a trial, cold applied and water based paints in an attempt to achieve efficiency savings.

It is too early to provide a detailed financial comparison on the new systems but we are already seeing efficiency improvements.

- (b) This work has not been put out to Tender as it is considered specialist work with no local Contractor currently available to carry out the work. The Department carries out signage and markings for other States Departments, eleven of the twelve Parishes and private companies and individuals on a recharge basis.