

QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 9th DECEMBER 2003, BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN

Question

Recently the Committee placed an advertisement in the Jersey Evening Post showing the proposals for the all-year Connex Bus service.

Will the President advise members—

- (a) whether the Committee has a Transport Strategy to cover all areas of the Island, and, if not, will he explain the reasons why?
- (b) whether the Committee intends to give consideration to ensuring that people on, for example, the No. 5 route to St. John, and other outlying areas of the Island, are not left without a winter bus service?
- (c) whether the Committee, when reviewing the winter bus timetable, will ensure that the timing of buses are such to allow people to use the service to get to and from work?
- (d) of the proposed times for the Route 22 extension as these were not publicised in the recent advertisement on 26th November 2003, seeking public comment?

Answer

- (a) The Committee is following the Sustainable Island Transport Policy approved by the States in June 1999, which has been considered to be the Island's Transport Strategy and from which the Bus Strategy was approved as a consequence. As I mentioned during the Budget debate, the Committee has started looking at the current policy and strategy set. Plans are in hand to publish a consultation paper by Easter 2004, following which the Committee, jointly with the Finance and Economics Committee, has in mind a debate in the States, at the earliest, in May 2004, on the long term funding requirements linked with the outcomes of the Fiscal Strategy and the Fundamental Spending Review.
- (b) Under the Motor Traffic Law 1935, as amended, the Committee has a duty to consider such matters. The Committee will consider carefully representations made during the current public consultation exercise.
- (c) Where it is reasonably practical to do so, the Committee will expect that people can get to and from work by bus. Given the range of times that businesses open for trade, the number of employees and the locations of certain businesses, it may not always be practical or economical.
- (d) The advertisement referred to was placed by Connex and did include the 'extension' times of departure. Timetable details have been available at Connex offices and Parish Halls since the 24th November 2003, as indicated by the Committee on the 18th November 2003. For ease of reference, a copy of the timetable for the 22 service, (service 21 in the operator's proposals), is attached to this answer for information.

PROPOSED ROUTE 21

21 - Rue des Pres - St Helier - Highview

Rue des Pres	07:20	08:20	09:30	---	---	---	---
Georgetown	07:27	08:27	09:36	---	---	---	---
St Helier Bus Station	07:34	08:34	09:43	10:30	11:30	12:30	13:30
Highview	07:54	08:54	09:58	10:52	11:52	12:52	13:52
Highview	07:00	08:00	09:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00
St Helier Bus Station	07:20	08:20	09:15	10:15	11:15	12:15	13:15
Georgetown	07:28	08:28	09:22	---	---	---	---
Rue des Pres	07:35	08:35	09:28	---	---	---	---