WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2015

Question

Will the Minister list for members the current services delivered by his department to the public or other departments and indicate whether he intends to reduce, cease or outsource any of these services as part of his commitment to the delivery of the targets set by the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)? Will he also inform members what reduction in staffing numbers through natural wastage/voluntary release have been achieved by the department in delivering the MTFP so far and what further reductions are being targeted?

In relation to the foregoing, will he further state whether his department has given notice that it intends to withdraw from the contract to service gardens/public space for Andium Homes, and if so why? Is it also the intention to withdraw from a similar contract with the Education Department, and will he state the reasons which underpin this decision?

Answer

The Transport and Technical Services Department is in the process of comprehensive reviews of both its Technical and Non-Technical Services that will enable them to continue to provide these essential public services to the Island and manage the finances in a sustainable manner in the long term. The majority of these reviews will be complete during 2016 and only on completion will the Department be able to say whether it intends reduce, cease or outsource any of the services it provides.

Shown below is a list of services delivered by the Transport and Technical Services and the staff savings that have been achieved by the department to date. At this time, the Department is unable to say what future manpower reductions will be made until it has completed the service reviews.

Department + Area	Voluntary Release 2015	Voluntary Release 2016	Reduction in staffing numbers through natural wastage	Total Manpower savings achieved to date
Transport and Technical Services	13.3	9.0	38.8	61.1
Operational Services: Waste	4.0	2.0	8.0	14.0
Drainage	2.0		3.0	5.0
Energy From Waste				
Liquid Waste			2.0	2.0
Solid Waste	2.0	2.0	3.0	7.0

Operation Services: Municipals	8.3	5.0	24.8	38.1
Cleaning	4.3		10.8	15.1
Jersey Harbours	1.0		0	1.0
Parks & Gardens	3.0	5.0	14.0	22.0

Engineering & Highways	1.0	1.0	6.0	8.0
Civils			2.0	2.0
Highways & Infrastructure Maintenance	1.0	1.0	4.0	6.0

Transport	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Buses				
Driver & Vehicle Standards				
Transport - Policy & Regulations				

Departmental Support*	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0

^{*} Departmental support contains areas such as Directorates, Chief Executive, Corporate Resources and Stores, which support the entire department.

Due to the current vacancies in the Parks and Gardens Mobile Gardening Team the Department made the decision to give notice to Andium Homes that it would be terminating the majority of its Landscape Maintenance Works Service Level Agreement on 31st December 2015. The reason why the Department chose to terminate the Andium Homes contract was that they already have existing gardening contracts in place and would be very easily able to get alternative contractors to undertake the work for 30% - 50% less than the Parks and Gardens Mobile Gardening Team can do.

It is the Department's intention to withdraw from the Parks and Gardens Mobile Gardening Contracts, including the Education Mobile Gardening Contracts, as and when vacancies become available.