

20.10.20

7 Deputy R.J. Ward of the Chair of the States Employment Board regarding negotiations in respect of public sector pay (OQ.271/2020):

What arrangements are in place to commence negotiations over public sector pay from this year into 2021 and subsequent years?

Senator J.A.N. Le Fondré:

The Connétable of St. Ouen is taking this question.

Connétable R.A. Buchanan of St. Ouen (Vice-Chair, States Employment Board - rapporteur):

The S.E.B. (States Employment Board) is in the process of agreeing the parameters for pay negotiations with the unions. We will have a draft framework for discussion by early November and we are hoping will have agreement to that by early December. Meetings with our union colleagues to discuss this will be set up very shortly. The framework, on the assumption it is agreed, will allow pay negotiations for 2021 and beyond to take place, noting of course that there will be a new S.E.B. in place from 2022. Any negotiations will consider the current economic position of the Island and the affordability of pay awards.

[10:45]

4.7.1 Deputy R.J. Ward:

Given the role that the public sector workers, particularly some areas, have played in the pandemic, and indeed we have all stood outside our homes and applauded, will the Assistant Chief Minister commit to remembering that commitment that was made to our public services in these negotiations and subsequently valuing the importance they are for this Island?

The Connétable of St. Ouen:

Yes, I thank the Deputy for his supplementary question. The factors he outlines will of course be borne in mind when considering pay awards for 2021.