

STATES OF JERSEY



WATERFRONT ENTERPRISE BOARD LIMITED: PROVISION OF INFORMATION BY THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Lodged au Greffe on 8th July 2003
by Senator S. Syvret

STATES GREFFE

PROPOSITION

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –

to direct the Policy and Resources Committee to assist States members in the proper performance of their functions and discharge of their public duty by supplying to any States member, upon request, information held by the Waterfront Enterprise Board Limited and, if necessary, to direct the Waterfront Enterprise Board Limited to comply with this decision using the powers vested in the Committee under Article 22(a) of the Articles of Association of the Company.

SENATOR S. SYVRET

REPORT

On both 11th March and 7th April, following approaches from disquieted members of the public, I submitted a number of questions to the President of the Policy and Resources Committee concerning the activities of the Waterfront Enterprise Board Limited. I have only received the answers on 4th July. Although carefully and painstakingly crafted, the answers cannot disguise, and largely confirm, a shambolic and incompetent approach to the process of re-developing the Island Site; a process which failed to meet the requisite standards of corporate governance and the necessary *appearance* of impartiality – facts largely confessed to in answer 6, although couched in weasel words.

What is particularly regrettable in the answers supplied by the Policy and Resources Committee is the wilful obstruction exhibited in their refusal to supply WEB minutes and the ‘cost-benefit analysis’ of the two competing proposals that was prepared by the former Managing Director for the Board. This last document will be key in gaining an understanding of the judgements arrived at.

WEB is a limited company 100% owned by the public. States members are the guardians of the public interest. If States members are to be able to fulfil their duty to the public, they must be assisted by committees, not obstructed.

There are no financial or manpower implications arising from this proposition.