WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES BY SENATOR S.C. FERGUSON ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 26th JUNE 2012

Question

Would the Minister as the representative of the shareholder, inform Members what the progress is on Gigabit Jersey?

- a) How many users are now on the system?
- b) What is the estimated time to complete the cabling for the Island and what is the estimate of time to get Gigabit Jersey into every home?
- c) What is the up to date estimate of costs to completion?

Answer

The Minister is pleased to note that Gigabit Jersey will form part of the update that JT will be providing to States members on 2 July. In the meantime, here are the answers to the Senator's specific questions:

a) There are currently more than 400 homes connected to the Gigabit Jersey network (410 on the 18th June; 450 expected by 26th June).

The expectation is to have 2,000 customers connected by the end of August, after which connections will increase to 2,000 a month. This work will be done by a group of newly trained staff, recruited by JT with support from the States' Back to Work team.

b) There are two aspects to the cabling: Homes Passed and Homes Connected.

Homes Passed refers to the running of the fibre across the Island, to within 10 to 100 metres of each home. JT aims to complete this by the end of 2012 which is well ahead of schedule.

Homes Connected provides the physical connection from the Homes Passed fibre into the customer's premises. As this work requires access to all residential premises the original timescale was estimated at 5 years to complete. JT is optimistic that this will be done one or two years ahead of schedule.

c) JT recently re-ran the costs model from a zero base. It is pleasing to note that the total cost remains at the original budget of £41.5m.