

WRITTEN QUESTION TO H.M. ATTORNEY GENERAL

**BY DEPUTY P.V.F. LE CLAIRE OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 22nd JUNE 2010**

Question

“Is H.M. Attorney General able to advise the Assembly whether it is possible for the Crown Estate in Jersey to secure the rights to the seabeds/Jersey waters when it comes to licensing and permitting of activities of a commercial nature and if not, when will he be in a position to do so?”

Answer

The Crown’s estate in Jersey is administered by Her Majesty’s Receiver General who deals with all revenues, incomes and assets that the Crown holds in right of Jersey.

Whilst the matter is not without its complexities in my provisional opinion the sea bed under Jersey’s territorial sea up to the twelve mile limit (or the median point in appropriate cases) is held by the Crown in right of Jersey and would fall under the jurisdiction of Her Majesty’s Receiver General for Jersey.

Accordingly, if that is correct, it would be Her Majesty’s Receiver General who would be responsible for licensing or permitting exploitation of the sea bed.

In my opinion this does not concern the Crown Estate in the United Kingdom.