WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 6th JULY 2010

Question

"Following the Minister's undertaking last month to initiate a wide-ranging public consultation over the potential impact of the introduction of further competition into the postal market on the finances of Jersey Post and the maintenance of the USO; would the Minister update members on progress and state when we can expect the public and other stakeholders to be consulted?

Does the Minister accept that proper regulation and not competition may be the way forward in the delivery of efficient postal services for all postal users?"

Answer

I released a consultation paper on the Universal Service Obligation for Postal Services in Jersey on Tuesday 29th June and it will run for eight weeks. The outcome of that consultation will help to frame policy in this area, but it is safe to say that efficiencies need to be made and the USO reconsidered. To that end the issue of more competition versus better regulation is not relevant.