

STATES OF JERSEY



CHARING CROSS: VACANT SITE – PETITION (P.38/2006) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 12th May 2006
by the Minister for Treasury and Resources**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

There is a pressing need for better use to be made of this valuable site.

Open space within urban areas is important, but this area of St. Helier is already better served than most by wide pavements, by the improvements at Charing Cross and Broad Street, the seating opposite the Town Hall and the nearby Parade Gardens.

As Minister for Treasury and Resources, my responsibility is to maximise the value of this piece of land for the benefit of the Island. In seeking to obtain the best value from the site it is not just financial value which is taken into account but the overall benefit to the community. The incorporation of this site within a larger redevelopment project would facilitate the regeneration of this corner, providing a much improved townscape and an economic uplift to the area, together with some worthwhile additional accommodation within the town centre. These benefits, as well as the capital receipt generated from sale, significantly outweigh whatever limited benefits there might be arising from retaining the area as an open space.

On these grounds the proposition is not supported.