

2.10 Deputy R.G. Le Hérisier of the Minister for Treasury and Resources regarding concerns of the U.K. Chancellor of the Exchequer in relation to Crown Dependencies:

How does the Minister intend to deal with the concerns of the U.K. Chancellor of the Exchequer as outlined in his recent pre budget statement?

Senator T.A. Le Sueur (The Minister for Treasury and Resources):

The comments of the U.K. Chancellor of the Exchequer as outlined in his pre-budget statement are a matter of profound importance to the Island and will occupy us very considerably over the next few months. In view of that the Chief Minister is to make a statement later in this sitting on the content of that document. He has been far more intimately involved in meetings in London with both Lord Bach and Lord Myners on the subject and I think it may be more appropriate for this House to raise those questions in response to the statement that the Chief Minister will be making very shortly.

2.10.1 Deputy R.G. Le Hérisier:

Notwithstanding that good advice, would the Minister not acknowledge that his increasingly optimistic statements in the face of statements from the Chancellor is leading to a certain cognitive dissonance as they say. In other words the public are getting very confused as to where the Minister for Treasury and Resources stands on these issues. Is he able to evaluate the nature of the threats that are coming or is he just captive of a certain spin machine?

Senator T.A. Le Sueur:

My evaluation is based on the information I have received from those who were present at the meetings. I was not present but the Chief Minister was and that is why I believe it is more appropriate that he might be able to make a more informed response to Deputy Le Hérisier than I can make because my information would be third-hand.