

**QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND
PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 24th JUNE 2003,
BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT**

Question

In answer to questions on 13th May 2003, the President advised that main road white line painting was work of a specialised nature.

Would the President inform members –

- (a) whether up to four vehicles can be engaged at the same time for any one road marking job, and, if so, the reasons for this?
- (b) whether cost per mile comparisons have ever been made with other jurisdictions? and,
- (c) what criteria makes this work of a specialist nature, and whether the Committee has received any expressions of interest from local contractors, and, if so, whether the Committee will now be seeking tenders for the work?

Answer

- (a) The Department operates a single purpose built road marking lorry adapted for Jersey width restrictions for centre and kerb line continuous marking. Additional vehicles that the Deputy refers to may have been seen on specific jobs and at certain locations requiring more integrated work. For example, when a new junction layout is required, traffic engineers and surveyors may be required for setting out purposes. At the same time, staff will also be deployed for the erection of road signs and for the manual application of road paint for lettering purposes at these junctions.
- (b) Cost comparisons with other authorities are made on an annual basis. The current cost of centre road lining is 81pence per metre in Jersey, compared to 80 pence per metre in authorities in the south of England for similar minor roads and urban areas, standard comparisons are all in metric units).
- (c) The material used for the majority of road marking is thermoplastic and as I described in my response on 13th May 2003, alternative cold applied materials are being trialled to assess their durability. However thermoplastic is preferred both here and in the UK due to its ability to withstand wear and tyre abrasion particularly when vehicles traverse the centre white line on narrow roads.

As a result of the publicity following on from the answer I gave on 13th May 2003, the Department received expressions of interest from two local contractors. Both contractors acknowledged that they do not have the heating equipment or purpose built vehicle at present to take on this work. However the Department will be following up these expressions of interest to assess their ability to provide services where alternative cold applications may be acceptable. Both companies are already used for the provision of road signs to the Department.