

**QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY, 4th NOVEMBER 2003 BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN**

Question

On 20th October, in response to my request dated 15th October 2003 that a tendering process be introduced for shipping routes between Jersey and St. Malo, similar to the tender process used for the Jersey to UK route, the President wrote – *‘The EDC currently have no plans to introduce a tender process to grant exclusive contracts for routes to St. Malo, indeed the general view of the Committee is to allow free competition on all air and sea routes’*.

Would the President inform members whether my letter dated 15th October 2003 was discussed at a properly constituted Committee meeting and, if so, was the Committee unanimous in its view or did any members register their dissent? If the letter was not discussed by the full Committee would the President explain why this was not done?

Answer

Deputy Rondel’s letter to me dated 15th October 2003 was not considered by the Economic Development Committee because there was no decision to be made and I was able to provide information on the current status.

The ramp permits that are in place now are effective until the end of 2004. It has been agreed that discussions should be held between the Harbours and Airports Committee and the Economic Development Committee with regard to the award of ramp permits for all ferry operators and ferry routes after 2004. It is anticipated that these discussions will take place within the context of the draft Competition Law, which is to be lodged soon.