

**QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 20th MAY 2003,  
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER**

**Question**

The public were recently given only 3 weeks notice of changes to the proposed summer bus service, with only 4 working days in which to comment in writing to the Public Services Department. Does the President accept that this period was inadequate for proper consultation to have taken place, and, if so, will he ensure that future similar consultations allow for longer consultation periods and deadlines?

**Answer**

The notice given was in accordance with published criteria in Article 24 of the Motor Traffic Law 1935, (as amended), and the Schedule of Conditions attached to each licence. Although two route licences are to be cancelled, the re-routing of other services within their current licence conditions will now serve these routes more cost-effectively. The revisions, as a whole, are of a minor nature and are the first small part of the ongoing restructuring of the local bus service. The Bus Users Forum, of which the Deputy is a member, is a keen proponent of these changes and we were very pleased to receive their comments at a recent Committee meeting.

As the restructuring proposals for next year's winter and summer services are reviewed in the light of this year's experience, changes of a more fundamental nature, and those which could affect larger numbers of people, will certainly receive more time for consultation. The notice given will reflect this fact.