

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES  
COMMITTEE BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN**

**ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2004**

**Question**

Would the President inform members –

- (a) whether the Committee applies the States' tender process, and how frequently, for sites for crushing aggregates and the hire of heavy plant and machinery on an hourly basis for such operations as beach work, sea defence work and emergency work?
- (b) who have been the successful applicants in the last seven years?
- (c) how many companies have applied to tender during this period, how many actually tendered, and the figures tendered in each area?
- (d) when is this process likely to be repeated and how will it be advertised?
- (e) of the quantity of re-cycled aggregate used by the Committee annually and the cost of purchasing re-cycled aggregate? and,
- (f) whether the Committee has been offered free of charge for collection re-cycled aggregates from re-cycling contractors, and, if so, from which companies, and whether the Committee has taken advantage of this offer; if the answer is in the negative, would the President state the reasons why?

**Answer**

- (a) The States currently employs one contractor, D.B. Cummins Limited, which operates on the La Collette land reclamation site. The role of the contractor is to recycle aggregate and glass entering the La Collette reclamation site on behalf of the Environment and Public Services Committee. The provision of these services was tendered in line with the States tendering process in the spring of 2000 and the contract period was for five years. The Committee is currently developing new contract documents in line with the draft Solid Waste Strategy and tenders will be sought in 2005 to provide the revised services. Once again, this new tender will be undertaken in accordance with the States tender process.

In relation to the hire of heavy plant and machinery, the department owns the majority of specialised machinery for waste handling through the Vehicle and Garage Plant Trading Account. If there is a specific short term need for heavy plant and machinery, the department reviews what is available on the Island and negotiates with the Island based contractors for the use of the equipment. The terms for this will vary depending on the application, urgency and market forces. For sea defence work, the contractor must be able to demonstrate they can work safely in view of tidal conditions. In selecting a contractor a number of considerations need to be taken into account, equipment must be safe, reliable and operated in a professional and competent manner. Decisions on the selection of contractors are made on a case by case basis, which is not necessarily the cheapest price, but always designed to ensure best value.

- (b) The successful applicants in the last seven years for each area are as follows –

The companies that have been involved in beach cleaning and sea defence work are –

ESP  
D.B. Cummins Ltd.  
Brian Blandin Ltd.

The companies that have undertaken Aggregate and Glass recycling are –

R.G. Romeril Ltd. (Albert reclamation site)  
D. B. Cummins (La Collette Reclamation site)

The hirers of Heavy Plant and Machinery Hire are –

Brian Blandin Ltd.  
D.B. Cummins (Jersey) Ltd.  
R.G. Romeril Ltd.  
Sutton Commercial  
Jersey Demolition Contractors.

In addition to these contractors who provide specialised plant, the majority of the Island's haulage industry is used to provide non-specialised equipment.

- (c) When the Committee used to undertake significant amounts of contract work using its own direct labour, the provision of plant and machinery was subject to annual review of prices and equipment available. At that time, new companies could be added. The equipment would then be selected from that list based on price, availability, and suitability for the particular application.
- (d) With the significant decline in internal contracting work, the department no longer hires large quantities of plant with the exception of the sea defence programme which is covered below. Any short term hire is now negotiated with local contractors on a case by case basis.

With respect to heavy plant requirements on the sea defence works, in March 2004, the States Internal Audit Department carried out a review of the sea defence programme. I was pleased to note that there were very few recommendations of any significance. One of the issues addressed was the procurement of the plant hire. The Committee had obtained quotations for the hire of specific plant at the beginning of the year. Internal Audit reviewed the three quotations and recommended that the Committee may benefit by negotiating longer term agreements with particular Plant Hire Contractors for the duration of the project. By this process, the contractors would be guaranteed work for a given period subject to meeting specified conditions and performance levels, therefore providing them with further opportunities to provide the most competitive prices. The department is in the process of preparing the necessary documents for such a contract for these works.

- (e) The Committee has used approximately 5,000 tonnes of recycled aggregates in 2004 at a cost of £25,000, some of which have been as part of contract work such as lining of the rock armouring at La Collette Reclamation site or for roadway and haul road strengthening and reinstatement. At present, the quality of recycled aggregate varies due to the method of processing and the nature of the incoming material. Part of the new tender process for the recycling contract at La Collette will require the successful contractor to apply a far more rigorous quality assurance programme to ensure that recycled aggregates reach the required certification standards and can be used for the majority of States contracts.
- (f) I cannot confirm that the Committee has been offered stone free of charge for collection. The Committee pays the market prices for recycled stone. The price will vary depending on the type and quantity of stone being purchased, such as hardcore, hogging, fine screened (certified), shale and gravel.