

**2.13 Deputy G.P. Southern of St. Helier of the Minister for Social Security regarding request to the Employment Forum about minimum wage:**

Does the Minister accept the request contained in my letter dated 24th February 2006 and circulated to Members today that he use his powers under Articles 19 and 20 of the Employment (Jersey) Law 2003 to ask the Employment Forum in making a recommendation for setting the minimum wage rate for 2007 to take into consideration the matters contained in the addendum to that letter and to do so by 31st October at the latest?

**Senator P.F. Routier (The Minister for Social Security):**

I believe that using the powers under Articles 19 and 20 would be, perhaps, inappropriate and using a sledgehammer to crack a nut. The Employment Forum has always considered all the representations and submissions and I have no doubt they will continue to do so. Anyone can write to the Forum on matters under discussion, including politicians, and I would encourage the Deputy to do so when the rate is next discussed.