

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS
BY DEPUTY S. PITMAN OF ST. HELIER**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 1st MAY 2007

Question

Would the Minister provide members with the annual figures for her Department's expenditure on vehicle recovery since 2002 and advise what companies have been contracted to provide this service to the Police since that date?

Answer

There are no companies contracted to provide tow-away services to the police. The Force, however, does maintain a rota of companies who can be called to carry out work, as required, either on behalf of the Force or the owners of vehicles. The members of companies on the list at any one time can vary according to commercial and operational circumstances. Work is allocated to different companies on a strict rotational basis. In 2005 a total of ten companies were approached and invited to apply for inclusion. Three expressed an interest at that time.

Since 2002 the following companies have at various times been included in the rota -

No. 1 Recovery
L. Balacco
R. Boschat
Bishops
Robin Ward

There are currently two companies on the rota, namely Robin Ward and No1 Recovery.

The annual cost to the Police for this service, for the years 2002 to 2006, was as follows –

2002	£24,465.00
2003	£26,451.00
2004	£28,577.00
2005	£22,405.00
2006	£27,212.00

Given that a significant number of tow-aways arise from road crashes, a review has recently been undertaken to examine whether the distribution of charges between the Force, vehicle owners and insurance companies is one which properly reflects the responsibilities of each and the interests of the taxpayer. The findings of the review are currently being examined.