

4.8 Deputy S. Power of St. Brelade of the Minister for Economic Development regarding charges for the use of the new Harbour crane:

Can the Assistant Minister advise whether charges for the use of the new harbour crane would be increased to cover the cost of the new apparatus and, if so, has the Harbours Department contacted any of the stevedoring or shipping companies, those that use the New North Quay, to inform them of this.

Deputy A.J.H. Maclean of St. Helier (Assistant Minister for Economic Development - rapporteur):

I can confirm that there is currently no specific facility charges for the use of any harbour cranes, however it is intended that a tonnage charge should be applied for the use of all the commercial cranes at the harbour. I can further confirm that consultation has been ongoing during the past 12 months with port users with the intention of applying the craneage charge from 1st January 2009. Thank you.

4.8.1 Deputy S. Power:

Yes, if I may be allowed to ask a supplementary? Can the Assistant Minister give an indication of the new tonnage charges and compare those to the existing charges so we may have an idea of the increase?

Deputy A.J.H. Maclean:

Yes, Sir, the new tonnage charges are £1.25 per tonne. As I mentioned a moment ago there is currently no charge for the harbour cranes, for any of the harbour cranes.

The Bailiff:

That concludes oral questions with notice. We come now to Questions to Ministers without notice, and the first question period is of the Minister for Health and Social Services, Deputy Le Hérissier.