

4.9 Deputy R.G. Le Hérissier of the Minister for Transport and Technical Services regarding the annual sum payable by Connex for the rental of Liberation Station:

What is the annual sum payable by Connex for the rental of Liberation Station?

The Connétable of St. Brelade (The Minister for Transport and Technical Services):

The current annual rental for Liberation Station is £50,000, which is payable by Transport and Technical Services to Property Holdings.

4.9.1 Deputy R.G. Le Hérissier:

Would the Minister confirm that that will be the rental for the foreseeable future, or does that amount to a special incentive rental? Would he also confirm that ultimately it is payable to Harcourt Developments?

The Connétable of St. Brelade:

The Deputy is right in that it is not for ever, regrettably. It was agreed at the very beginning of discussions with W.E.B. on the construction of the Transportation Centre, and W.E.B. have honoured this agreement. But at the end of the original Connex contract period, which will be September this year, the rental will be increased to £100,000 or market rental, whichever is the higher.

4.9.2 Deputy R.G. Le Hérissier:

Would the Minister agree, notwithstanding the excellence of Liberation Station, that the add-on costs such as re-siting of the staff canteen, need to run a minibus to the Albert Pier for off-site parking of buses, et cetera, plus this enormous jump in rental which we are now going to witness from £50,000 to £100,000, has totally undermined a lot of the rationale, and that much of the bus contract is going to monies which are little to do with running more buses?

The Connétable of St. Brelade:

I would agree with the Deputy on that.

4.9.3 Deputy R.G. Le Hérissier:

Could I ask the Minister what action is he going to take to address that problem?

The Connétable of St. Brelade:

I think at the outset of the new contracts we ought to have serious discussions with W.E.B.