

3.9 The Deputy of St. John of the Chief Minister regarding the admittance of staff from private schools to the Public Employees Contributory Retirement Scheme:

In recent years a few private schools have applied and been admitted to the Public Employees Contributory Retirement Scheme. Would the Minister inform Members whether the taxpayer contributes to this scheme and, if so, how is it acceptable for public funds to go into the private sector?

Senator T.A. Le Sueur (The Chief Minister):

Any employers awarded admitted body status into the Public Employees Contributory Retirement Scheme pay all the relevant employee contributions as calculated by the scheme's actuary. There is no cost to the States. The structure of the scheme provides the admittance of employers other than the States. A number of organisations participate in this way, including 8 of the Parishes, the Jersey Advisory and Conciliation Service, the Jersey Heritage Trust and Family Nursing. The States Employment Board are mindful of the potential for various problems that could arise in relation to admitted bodies and adopts a cautious approach when awarding admitted body status. I would add that teachers in the private schools are, of course, admitted to the Teachers Superannuation Fund and, again, the employers pay all their contributions.

3.9.1 The Deputy of St. John:

In recent months has any private school been refused permission to join this particular scheme?

Senator T.A. Le Sueur:

An application from one school has been turned down, yes.

The Deputy of St. John:

Could the Minister repeat that, please?

The Deputy Bailiff:

Yes, it has, he said.