

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BY DEPUTY S.S.PA. POWER OF ST. BRELADE
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 10th MARCH 2009**

Question

Can the Minister explain why La Folie Inn, owned by the States, has been left empty for over 6 years and can he advise the cost of re-roofing the building prior to its closure?

Answer

In November 2004, the Harbours and Airport Committee agreed to release the then licensee of La Folie Inn from his contract following notice to quit due to a downturn in business. As the property was included in the Jersey Harbours Master Plan it was not considered appropriate to enter into a long term lease without any assurance of redevelopment. Consequently it was proposed that a 3 to 5 year lease agreement with a new tenant be secured.

Expressions of interest in the site were received and a preferred developer selected, however unfortunately this developer failed to complete and the planning process ended. In 2006, the site was re-advertised for a short term lease; the long term intention always being to redevelop the whole area.

This process failed to find a suitable tenant as the building requires significant investment to make a return.

La Folie quay is currently being master-planned by Jersey Harbours, WEB and Property Holdings with the intention of maximising the greater value of the whole site for marine leisure in the long term.

The work to re-roof La Folie Inn was carried out in 2002 at a cost of £25,000.