WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. MARY ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 6th JULY 2010

Question

"Following the Minister's confirmation on 22nd June 2010 that his Department in consultation with Planning and Environment, have appointed a landscape architect to design and deliver the Town Park, can he tell the Assembly when the project was put to tender, how it was advertised, and provide full details of the tendering and selection process?

Can he further tell members what consultation, if any, took place before and/or during the tender process?"

Answer

Successful delivery of the Town Park project needs the design skills of remediation experts, and engineers, as well as landscape architects in one team, so a multidisciplinary consultant able to advise on both the remediation and park design was needed. A select list of five recommended consultants with remediation expertise, engineering ability and landscape design skills, were invited in 2008 to provide technical and fee proposals. Their written submissions, presentations and interview performance were assessed within a structured skills/cost scoring system to select the best team. Following written submissions, and interviews on 12th May 2008, the Parsons Brinkerhoff team were appointed. The team includes Burns and Nice as Park landscape architects who have extensive park and urban real experience. Local cost consultants Colin Smith Partnership are also part of the team and Carlo Riva has been selected to provide local architectural advice.

Landscape architects, EDAW prepared the park brief for Planning in January 2007, prior to TTS being assigned the project delivery and this was part of the consultancy services invitation package.

Community consultation on the proposed landscaped park has not been carried out to date as the North of Town Masterplan outcome has been pending. Consultation to understand the aspirations of the local community for facilities within the space available is envisioned. This would allow a park facilities brief to be finalised and the preparation of a park layout masterplan. The masterplan would then be published for consultation, in advance of preparing a detailed planning application to allow the construction of the park to start.

TTS has been allocated responsibility to deliver the park, but this must to be to design that is endorsed by the community, Planning and Environment, and the Parish of St Helier. Utilising the team that has been established and involved in evaluating the site and tendering a remediation and park contract package, will enable the park to be delivered in 2011. Any change in approach would delay delivery.