

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER  
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2010**

**Question**

Following the breakdown of the mediation process between the States Employment Board and teachers' representatives, will the Chief Minister inform members what instructions were given to the States representatives on the 2009 pay offer in order to allow meaningful mediation to take place? What further measures, if any, does the Chief Minister have under consideration to avert the prospect of industrial action in schools?

**Answer**

The States Employment Board's negotiators were asked to ensure that the full details of the States financial circumstances and the Island's economic circumstances (which underpin the Board's current pay policy) were explained to those attending the mediation, especially as these included a number of full-time Trade Union Officers from the UK.

The Board also gave its negotiators full remit to discuss its current pay offer at the mediation, provided that any possible agreement did not increase the overall sum of monies available for pay. The Board did not enable its negotiators to reach any settlement for 2009 which increased the pay bill in that year. This was in accordance with States policy.

My understanding is that the Unions at the mediation declined to discuss the Employer's offer for 2010 and 2011.

The Board's negotiators remain ready to meet with Teachers' Unions at any time to discuss its offer for the years 2010 and 2011.