

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
BY CONNÉTABLE OF ST. JOHN  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 20th MARCH 2012**

**Question**

In view of the current difficult economic climate what plans, if any, has the Minister made to ensure continuity of service to keep freight and passenger vessel transport operating in the event of one or more shipping companies ceasing trading to cover the disruption that would be caused?

**Answer**

As part of normal business practice, the Port of Jersey has contingency plans in place should there be a disruption to freight and passenger vessel transport, for example, in circumstances where a company ceased trading.

The Port of Jersey carried out a thorough investigation into the availability of shipping services both in 2008 and 2012 to ensure continuity of business in the event of the failure of a major operator. The freight volumes to and from Jersey are consistent, hence planning contingencies are quite straight forward than in more volatile markets. While the data remains commercially sensitive I can give assurances that should a freight operator cease trading there is sufficient capacity between the existing operators to cover any disruption.

In terms of passenger services, Port of Jersey has identified suitable alternative provision that could operate in Jersey waters as an interim service until a longer term solution could be secured.