

2.7 Deputy G.C.L. Baudains of St. Clement of the Minister for Transport and Technical Services regarding the provision by the new contractor of buses that are suitable for the Island's narrow roads:

With the present buses often driving over the centre white line, will the Minister be requiring any new bus contractor to comply with local legislation and provide buses that are suitable for the relatively narrow roads that exist in Jersey?

Deputy K.C. Lewis (The Minister for Transport and Technical Services):

I am pleased to confirm that my officers have been working closely with the preferred bidder for the 2013 bus-operating contract and, within the last 2 weeks, have met with potential vehicle suppliers. At least one vehicle design has been identified, which provides a reasonable passenger capacity without requiring exemption from the Jersey rigid vehicle size limits.

The Deputy Bailiff:

Supplementary?

Deputy G.C.L. Baudains:

Merely, to thank the Minister for that helpful reply.

2.7.1 Deputy M. Tadier:

The question relates to the white lines. It seems to me that anyone who has driven along the inner road, especially coming from town to west, will know that it is not simply buses that cannot get past without going over the white lines. Any cars have to constantly go over the white line in order to pass the traffic. Can I ask the Minister, whether it is a bus or whether it is a car, is there any liability for the department or for the authority, which may be the Parish, in ensuring that cars do not park in such a way where all the traffic is likely to have to cross the white line and make themselves liable in terms of an accident?

Deputy K.C. Lewis:

Yes, anyone crossing the white line would be liable but this is something we are working on to streamline traffic.

The Deputy Bailiff:

The question for the Minister was whether the department would be liable?

Deputy K.C. Lewis:

Not in my opinion.

2.7.2 Deputy M. Tadier:

What steps is the Minister taking to specifically deal with the question on the inner road where there is not enough room where people are parking? What steps will the Minister take to resolve that issue?

Deputy K.C. Lewis:

We are looking, again, at parking on the inner road and possibly moving the central line over and possibly moving the parking spaces.