

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
COMMITTEE BY DEPUTY T.M. PITMAN OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 17th JANUARY 2012**

Question

Will the Chairman advise whether the Public Accounts Committee intends to investigate and subsequently publish a report into the total amount of taxpayers' money used under the last Council of Ministers, under Senator T.A. Le Sueur, to provide 'golden handshakes' to senior Civil Servants leaving their posts early; further still, will the Committee be investigating the absence of detail on such payments within published States accounts?

Answer

The subject of 'golden handshakes' to senior Civil Servants leaving their posts early is recognised to be of significant public interest and indeed raises questions relating to value for money for the taxpayer.

The Deputy is fully aware that the Committee is yet to be fully constituted and it would be wrong of me to pre determine a work programme. The nominations for non-elected members will only be presented to the States today, 17th January 2012 and the Public Accounts Committee cannot sit until fully constituted in accordance with Standing Order 124. The first meeting is scheduled for 24th January 2012 and the work programme of the Committee for 2012 is on the agenda.

The Public Accounts Committee work programme will therefore be established at some stage after its first meeting. Publication will be made on the web site and a copy will be circulated to States Members for information.