

## **2.5 Deputy M. Tadier of the Chief Minister regarding negotiations with public sector workers and their representatives in relation to a cost of living pay adjustment for 2012:**

Will the Chief Minister provide an update on what negotiations have taken place with public sector workers and their representatives, with regard to a cost of living pay adjustment for 2012 and how these negotiations are progressing?

**Senator I.J. Gorst (The Chief Minister):**

The States Employment Board has received pay claims from the majority of pay groups, one exception to this is the claim from Ambulance Service, which remains outstanding. Negotiations are on-going. The next meeting is scheduled for 23rd April and the States Employment Board hopes to make progress in the coming months.

### **2.5.1 Deputy M. Tadier:**

Will the Minister provide further information about why the Ambulance Service has not put in a pay claim?

**Senator I.J. Gorst:**

Obviously, I do not have the detail of why they have not issued a pay claim. It will be a matter for them. Although I can, of course, ask officers to approach them to see if they are intending to do so. Then, obviously, relay that information to the Deputy.

### **2.5.2 Deputy G.P. Southern:**

Is the Minister aware that arbitration which took place over the J.E.C. (Jersey Electricity Company) employees resulted in a 3 per cent plus pay award?

**Senator I.J. Gorst:**

I am aware of that, yes.

### **2.5.3 The Deputy of St. Ouen:**

Could the Chief Minister confirm whether or not the proposed C.S.R. (Comprehensive Spending Review) saving of £14 million related to the pay of States employees will be achieved by 2013?

**Senator I.J. Gorst:**

The States Employment Board are in the process of endeavouring to approve that.

### **2.5.4 Deputy M. Tadier:**

Will the Chief Minister or the S.E.B. (States Employment Board) accept the position of most of the representatives and the workers that they would wish pay negotiations to be completely separated from terms and conditions? If not, why not?

**Senator I.J. Gorst:**

The States Employment Board is of course aware that some pay negotiation groups would prefer that they were separated. That is as it may be. The States Employment Board has made an offer, as I have reiterated previously in this Assembly, and that making an offer and negotiating around that offer is part of the normal process of arriving at pay deals.

### **2.5.5 Deputy G.P. Southern:**

Would the Chief Minister remind the Assembly exactly what the offer entailed and whether the employees were only too willing to snap the S.E.B.'s hand off in order to take that very generous offer?

**Senator I.J. Gorst:**

I am sure there is no Member in this Assembly that requires me to remind them of the offer.

**Deputy G.P. Southern:**

I do. With due respect, the public are listening and it might be fair enough for Members to have a good memory, but I think it is important for the public to be reminded. I did ask a question, Sir.

**Senator I.J. Gorst:**

Of course, this is information which is already in the public domain, but so be it. As the Deputy is well aware and I suspect most members of the public are also well aware, the initial offer made on behalf of the States Employment Board was for no increase in pay in 2012 and 2013, but in 2014 an increase of 2½ per cent. Of course, the States Employment Board has paid normal incremental rises which amount to something like £3.6 million during 2012.