

2019.10.22

9 Connétable K. Shenton-Stone of St. Martin of the Minister for External Relations regarding the establishment of a specialist border inspection post in Normandy post-Brexit: (OQ.252/2019)

Will the Minister outline the estimated proportion of the total cost of a specialist border inspection post in Normandy, post-Brexit, which the Government of Jersey has promised to cover?

Senator I.J. Gorst (The Minister for External Relations):

I attended a political summit with Normandy on 4th October of this year, a number of issues were discussed and high on the agenda was fisheries, particularly the arrangements for Brexit. At that summit it was agreed that both the Jersey and Normandy authorities would work together to ensure Jersey fishermen could continue to land fish in France and, therefore, access the French market. The Norman authorities said that they are ready to facilitate access to Granville and set up a sanitary check station to allow Jersey fishermen to land their catch. Costs at this stage are uncertain, but an initial estimate from the President of La Manche was €40,000. I said Jersey would be willing to make a contribution to these costs and Jersey officials continue to work alongside their Normandy counterparts on these issues.

The Connétable of St. Martin:

I do not have a supplementary. I just feel that is probably money well spent.

3.9.1 Connétable M.K. Jackson of St. Brelade:

Could the Minister outline whether this has received the approbation of Paris?

Senator I.J. Gorst:

That is a very good question. I suspect that Ministers in Paris may be more supportive than counterparts in a different capital in a European country. We know that fisheries is an E.U. (European Union) competency and therein lays the dilemma and the issues that we are trying to address and navigate on behalf of all Jersey fishermen.

The Bailiff:

I assume you do not want a final supplementary, Connétable of St. Martin?