

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
BY DEPUTY R.J. WARD OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 30th NOVEMBER 2020**

Question

“Given the additional Covid-19 response funding allocations made to LibertyBus within the 2020 Government Plan over the period 2020 to 2024, will the Minister advise the total Government spend for the LibertyBus contract for each of the years during that period?”

Answer

The Covid-19 response funding set aside in the Government Plan 2021-2024 is the maximum expected sum that may be required should circumstances dictate that bus ridership numbers fall below those needed to ensure that the bus contract is viable. It is likely that expenditure will be below the sums budgeted.

The base departmental budget for Infrastructure, Housing and Environment contains the following sums assigned against the contract:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Budgeted Figures	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Main & School Bus Services	3,644	3,735	3,735	3,735	3,735
Concessionary Passes & Avanchi Access	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100
Impact of GST on LibertyBus fares	-	400	400	400	400
Return of Profit Share	(250)	(250)	(250)	(250)	(250)
Total - IHE Revenue Head of Expenditure	4,494	4,985	4,985	4,985	4,985
Covid Support Head of Expenditure 2021-24		2,000	1,200	500	250
Covid Support in 2020					
Paid (Q2 2020)	399				
potential impact (forecast additional 2020)	622				

It should be noted that the Main & School Bus Service contract sums are fixed, the remaining sums are indicative budgeted amounts and actual costs may vary depending on service utilisation. Profit Shares are not guaranteed over the period and during covid-19 restrictions are unlikely to be received.

There is no budget for the impact of Transfer Fares recently agreed by the Assembly under P.107/2020 as it is too early to ascertain the level of demand that will arise when this facility is offered from January 2021.

Inflationary increases are included within the contract sum, however, as no inflation funding is provided within the current Government Plan 2021-24, the above sums are flat rated.

Final figures for 2020 are not yet available, all sums shown are budgeted.