



Policy & Resources Committee

Response to a Question Pursuant to Rule 14 of The Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees

Subject: Fort Richmond

States' Member: Deputy A W Taylor

Date received: 19th September 2024

Date of reply: 11th October 2024

Questions

In a media release dated 26th July 2024, titled *Response to Guernsey Press request for comment on Fort Richmond*, the Policy and Resources Committee stated:

*"...the States considered, on the basis of **formal assurances (emphasis added)**, that the adjoining landowners would be willing and capable of agreeing any boundary exchanges to suit their specific requirements following completion of the sale".*

The following quote from the Allez family was reported in the Guernsey Press on 1st August 2024:

"Our family did not provide assurances that we were happy for part of our home to be sold and then for the boundary to be redrawn in the rightful place at a later date."

In response to questions during the meeting of the States on 3rd September 2024, Deputy Trott confirmed that he had not seen the "*formal assurances*" from the Allez family, as referred to in the media release, but confidently stated that the information they published in the media release was "*accurate*".

Please confirm:

- When the States of Guernsey received a formal assurance from the Allez Family as referred to above; and
- whether the Policy & Resources Committee have seen the formal assurance from the Allez family; and
- if the Policy and Resources Committee have not seen the formal assurance from the Allez, whether the committee have requested sight of it.

Response

It was not intended, through the media release of 26th July, to infer that the Allez family had supplied formal assurances to the States of Guernsey. No such assurances had been received. Rather, the release sought to explain that following considerable efforts to facilitate an exchange with all parties prior to the sale of land, the States believed that it would be possible for the adjoining landowners to agree any boundary exchanges to suit their specific requirements following completion.

As previously stated, all parties (the States, the prospective purchaser of Fort Richmond and the owners of the neighbouring land) were legally represented. On a voluntary basis the States covered a significant proportion of the legal costs of the neighbouring landowner, i.e. the Allez family, during negotiations to agree a boundary exchange. While an agreement could not be achieved prior to the completion, the sale was concluded with boundaries clearly conveyed and understood by the legal representatives of the parties.

As a private law matter the Committee does not believe it appropriate to comment further.

Deputy Lyndon Trott
President
Policy & Resources Committee