



Access to Public Information Request

Date of receipt: 4th March 2019

Date of response: 6th March 2019

PwC report – Air and Sea Links

Request

In spring 2018, PwC was commissioned by the Policy and Resources Committee to produce two Reports: one into Air Links Infrastructure and the second into a Contingency Plan relating to the sale of Condor Ferries by its owner.

These Reports were received back by P&R in autumn 2018. They have been shared with the Committee for Economic Development, the States Trading Supervisory Board and the Committee for the Environment & Infrastructure.

However, they have been withheld from the public.

These are public documents. They have been paid for from the public purse. The taxpayer has a right to see them, and you have an obvious obligation to produce them.

We request that you do so within the 20 day period stipulated on your website:

<https://www.gov.gg/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=105845&p=0>

Response

In a statement on behalf of the Policy & Resources Committee to the States Assembly on 12 December 2018, the Vice-President of the Policy & Resources Committee stated:

“The Policy & Resources Committee will publish the PwC report on air links infrastructure as an appendix to that policy letter [‘Review of Strategic Air and Sea Links Infrastructure’], so that all States Members have the opportunity to see the evidence - and indeed, all in our community do too.”

And:

“Given the work that we will be doing [on sea links], we need to be careful not to undermine any commercial position that we could need to adopt in the future. However, as a government we have a duty to be as open and transparent as possible. No one, regardless of their stake would or should expect anything less. This means we will provide information on the PwC findings in the policy letter. We will endeavour to provide Members of the Assembly with as much information as we are able to.”

The Policy & Resources Committee will be submitting the policy letter referenced above to the Greffe on or by Monday 11 March 2019, to be considered by the States Assembly at its meeting in April 2019.

As set out on 12 December, the **PwC review of air links** will be appended to the policy letter in full.

Given the commercial sensitivities of the content of the **PwC review of sea links**, that review will not be published at this stage and a summary of PwC’s recommendations and findings on sea links – which PwC has approved – will be included in the policy letter. This is being done in line with the States’ Access to Public Information code:

- Exemption 2.3 – “information whose disclosure could led to improper gain or advantage of would prejudice the competitive position of a Committee or other public body or authority [and] negotiations or the effective conduct of... commercial or contractual activities.”;
- Exemption 2.10 – “information which is or will soon be published, or whose disclosure would be premature in relation to a planned announcement or publication.”;
- Exemption 2.13 – “information including commercial confidences, trade secrets or intellectual property whose unwarranted disclosure would harm the competitive position of a third part [and] information where a third party has requested or agreed to confidentiality as part of a contract or agreement.”

As you rightly note, both of the PwC reviews have been shared with the Committee for Economic Development, the Committee for the Environment & Infrastructure and the States’ Trading Supervisory Board. In addition the air links review has been shared with Scrutiny Management Committee.