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Sent: Wednesday, November 6, 2024 11:28:57 AM

To: Lyndon Farnham <L.Farnham@gov.je>; Kirsten Morel <K.Morel2@gov.je>

Subject: JEP tender coverage

Dear Ministers,

Returning from 2-weeks away (business and annual leave) I feel badly let down by the failure to establish a clear narrative with media over the delayed decision-making on future sea connectivity. This has left an open position for media to speculate that the reason for delay is down to my recusal and most recently, to imply some form of bias towards one of the bidders: yesterday's column in the JEP was the final straw in terms of cumulative impact on my personal well-being.

Whilst once again acknowledging my genuine error – an error repeated by at least one other colleague – the delay of this past 2-weeks has clearly been down to political decision-making in Jersey and differentiated positions between the Channel Islands. I left a clear position with Ministers as at Monday 21st October that neither bidder was appointable upon conclusion of the tender process although considered the DFDS legal elements most likely to be overcome in further dialogue than the fundamental issues with Condor's involvement within the BF tender.

Public servants are generally muzzled and unable to directly express our positions to media or the public at large and there is a need for our political leads to do this where they feel able. Failing that, I look forward to my time coming around under privilege of a future scrutiny hearing.

Richard