

MEDIA RELEASE FROM PENZANCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

THE SEA LINK TO THE ISLES OF SCILLY

Penzance Chamber of Commerce hereby respond to the media release circulated by Andrew George MP yesterday, 1st March, on the subject of the sea link.

The Chamber are rightly concerned about the long overdue investment in the harbours of Penzance and St Marys and are worried that we do not loose the £11 million (32%) of EU funding towards it due to dithering or short-sighted cost cutting on the part of the Government. The Minister MUST make a decision – and the right decision at that – within the next 2 weeks if the project is not to falter.

We need to ensure that the Islanders get a new vessel that provides an all year round passenger service, which is of increased importance given the uncertainty of the Helicopter Service (they had all year round sea service from 1920 to 1990).

Chambers members are disappointed by our MP's apparent half hearted support for the project, they expect (and deserve) robust support for this major investment in West Cornwall. Many members consider the MP's involvement in the Penzance Harbour planning issue is at best unhelpful meddling (or unnecessarily damaging). Chamber Members are looking for leadership from our MP to get the best solution for the whole community, the majority of whom are solidly behind the project as has been proved by both a petition and a Facebook campaign.

Ends

For further comment contact Mike Waters, Chairman of Penzance Chamber of

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Notes to editors

Penzance Chamber of Commerce has been established for over 100 years as the voice of business in the area and currently comprises some 400 full and associate members in Penwith and the Isles of Scilly. We are affiliated to the Cornwall Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



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