

**Written questions member's Islandcouncil for the Executive Council/ Government Commissioners.**  
(art.159, lid 1 WolBES/ art. 46 RvO Islandcouncil)

Issue : Ferry Service  
Date question : November 22 2021  
Sender : Nicolaas Sneek  
Date answer : **(within 15 days)**  
Responsible Com./Gov.Com. :  
Responsible editor :

The debate in the Island Council on November 19<sup>th</sup> on the ferry service, which will commence shortly and new information provided in this meeting left me with several unanswered questions.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. I understand that there were seven companies that took part in the bidding process. Can the names of these companies be provided to the island council?
2. On what date was decided that the company Blues & Blues would be granted the contract?
3. With which entity (or entities) has Blues & Blues signed the ferry service contract and on what date?
4. Was Blues & Blues already the owner of the 150 pax ferry boat before the signing of the contract and was this part of their proposal or did they purchase the vessel after the signing?
5. Is Blues & Blues according to the contract allowed to use a smaller vessel i.e., a vessel that carries 50 pax, in the event that the number of passengers will be less than expected?
6. Why has been opted for a special allowance to the public entity, instead of that the national government enters into a PSO (openbaar vervoer) agreement directly with Blues & Blues which is the way it is done in The Netherlands?
7. Is there one special allowance for Saba and Statia for the ferry service? Or receives each island its part? If so, how is the division and how will this work out?
8. How is the public entity using the special allowance of 2 million Euros to subsidize the ferry service? Is it been done by the way of a seat guarantee, and if so, how many seats are guaranteed and by who?
9. In the IC meeting of November 19<sup>th</sup>, it was explained that the research in the Hartman report was used to substantiate the need of the ferry service. This research however focused solely on air-connectivity between the Dutch Caribbean islands. Can it be explained how the information provided in this report also is applicable for a boat-ferry service?
10. The island council in its motion of February 4<sup>th</sup> specifically requested that the recommendations of the Hartman report be carried out. Why has the commissioner decided, to go for ferry services instead and hereby apparently ignoring the wish of the Island Council?