

Deputy Tadier
Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Scrutiny Office, States Greffe
Morier House
St Helier
JE1 1DD

13th March 2026

Dear Deputy Tadier

Further to your letter requesting comments on the Draft Shops (Regulation of Opening and Deliveries) (Jersey) Repeal Law 202-, please find below our response to the number points in your letter.

1. We do not support the complete removal of all the current restrictions to opening on Sundays and other "Special Days" (Good Friday, Liberation Day, Boxing Day). We would be more supportive of being able to operate unrestricted hours on only 10 Sundays or "Special Days" per year rather than the current 5.
2. The only action we would wish to undertake if the legislation is passed would be to operate our normal 9am to 6pm hours on the 5 days we are currently restricted to operating from 10am to 4pm.
3. We would not wish to open any additional days to those we are already able to, as we do not believe there are many additional sales to be made but our sales would simply be spread over 7 days rather than the 6 days we currently open. This would therefore not increase our sales significantly but would increase our staffing costs leading to reduced profits. However, if competitors in our sector decided to open every Sunday, we would reluctantly be forced to open to avoid losing sales to them.
4. As we would resist opening, we would not attract more deliveries and if we were forced to open to match competitors operating hours, we are still unlikely to receive more deliveries as most hauliers will not be open, but we would possibly have to operate our delivery service to our customers on Sunday as we do on our other trading days.
5. Our staff contracts already quote working days as "Monday to Sunday" to cover us for the few Sundays we are open, but these are staffed largely on a voluntary basis and as additional hours to their 5 standard working days and therefore attract overtime pay. If we were to want sufficient experienced permanent staff to work Sundays within their normal working days we would have to go through an extensive consultation process. We believe this would be extremely unpopular with staff and would lead to some leaving our employment. It would also reduce the amount of experienced or supervisory staff available on our other trading days which would be likely to damage our levels of customer services and reduce sales. Trading over 7 days would also require an overall increase in staff at a time we are already struggling to recruit people into the retail industry (often because of the need to work on a Saturday!). This would increase the number of school aged staff we would have to employ at weekends, who are often great operating tills and replenishing stock but simply do not have sufficient product knowledge to serve our customers.
6. We have not seen the JCC Code of Conduct so are unable to comment on this.

Ransoms and Son Limited t/a Ransoms Garden Centre

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7. When the current Sunday Trading regulations were brought in there was a great deal of focus on how it would affect staff within the retail sector and the impact on their family life. In this latest law to repeal those rules there does not appear have been any thought given to those working in the sector and these changes seem to have been largely driven to serve the food retailing chains and to improve politicians' election chances by giving the voters more shopping time on a Sunday.
8. Consumers obviously want endless choice, as long as it does not affect or cost them so we are sure they would see this as a benefit. At present shops can open every Sunday and those that believe it benefits them or feel they would lose out to competitors if they don't, are already doing so. Overall, we don't think it is of benefit to the economy as consumers are not likely to spend more money but in the long term, they will end up paying more for goods as businesses have to pass on the additional costs of opening over 7 days. It will also have a negative effect on businesses ability to find staff putting more pressure on the Population Office to issue more registered licences or even to include Retail in the current work permit scheme used by Hospitality, Agriculture and Construction.

It was raised in the press that part of the reason for introducing this plan to repeal the law was to remove the cost and burden of the current licencing system. This is an over exaggeration; the current system involves filling in one or two very short forms once a year and requires the payment of either or both of the fees of £60 & £120 which is not a huge cost for businesses' with a sales area of over 700 square metres.

We take it that the politicians proposing this law to encourage more shops to open and for longer on a Sunday will also be working to ensure that all customer facing departments within the Government of Jersey will also be opening on Sundays to benefit their "customers".

Your sincerely



Katherine & Rebecca Ransom
Directors

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