

Dear Echo

re "MP intervenes to calm storm over the ferry", Echo, Jan 4 05

Gosport MP Peter Viggers has excelled himself. He has gone beyond the usual U-turn to perform a complete loop-the-loop over the take-over of Gosport ferry company.

He began by accepting the offer of the take-over company to a seat on the board - and the money that went with it. That caused an outcry. He then said he would sit on the board to ensure the views of Gosport people were represented, but would not take the salary. He has now decided not to take the seat at all. His reasoning is that he has been given assurances about the future of the service. Given the essential nature of the ferry to Gosport, assurances wouldn't satisfy me. I would want to be at the heart of the company where I could get the earliest possible notice of any threats or changes.

The lack of any financial reward couldn't be a factor in his change of heart, could it? I think MPs get paid enough without having to worry about whether they are getting further remuneration to represent their constituents.

Yours sincerely,

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