TOURISM INVESTMENT FUND: GRANT OF FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF LES CREUX BOWLS CLUBHOUSE

Lodged au Greffe on 2nd February 1999 by the Finance and Economics Committee

STATES OF JERSEY

STATES GREFFE

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PROPOSITION

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion -

- (a) to authorise a grant of £125,000 to the Sport, Leisure and Recreation Committee as a contribution towards the construction cost of the new clubhouse at the Les Creux Bowls facility, Les Creux, St. Brelade;
- (b) to agree that the Finance and Economics Committee should meet the necessary expenditure from the Tourism Investment Fund.

FINANCE AND ECONOMICS COMMITTEE

Report

In 1998 the States agreed that a sum of £271,700 could be retained by the Sport, Leisure and Recreation Committee, from the £1.5 million voted in 1993 for the provision of a golf course at Les Creux, St. Brelade. The funds were retained to provide ε bowls facility and clubhouse at Les Creux in order to host the British Bowls Championships in 1999.

The cost of the greens, irrigation system and car parks have been accommodated within the funds available, but there are no funds remaining for the clubhouse development external services or car park finishings.

A further £588,653 is required to complete the project, which includes £407,153 for the clubhouse. The Sport, Leisure and Recreation Committee has requested £125,000 from the Tourism Investment Fund towards the cost of the clubhouse development, the balance of which will be met by that Committee from £ for £ Revenue Grants and Lottery Profits.

The Tourism Investment Fund Sub-Committee considered the request in December 1998, and decided that the development would make an impact on tourism for the Island in the short to medium term (as detailed in the Appendix to this report) and would meet the following Sport, Leisure and Recreation Committee objectives -

- To increase the number of people visiting the Island to participate in sport and recreation at festivals and events, to raise the sporting profile of Jersey and to raise the level of competition for locals and tourists.
- To gain approval for the redevelopment of Les Creux as proposed in the LUC (Land Use Consultants) report. Commence the implementation of the Management Plan for areas designated for sport and recreation.

The President of the Finance and Economics Committee gave an undertaking to the House that, prior to approving any grants from the Tourism Investment Fund, details would be presented, firstly to the Finance and Economics Committee, and then to the States for consideration. It is therefore recommended that the grant of £125,000 to the Sport, Leisure and Recreation Committee be approved.

Tourism Investment Fund - Sport, Leisure and Recreation Committee - request for funding Bowls Clubhouse, Les Creux - effect on tourism

It is very difficult to monitor the effectiveness of decisions with regard to the impact on the tourism industry. However, the Chief Executive Officer of the Sport, Leisure and Recreation Committee has indicated that the impact on tourism in the short/medium term would be as follows -

	Visitor spend £'000	Visiting team spend £'000	Total bednights
1999 British Championships	350	175	10,500
2000/2002 European Championships	175	350	10,500
2004 British Championships	350	175	17,500
European Championships	175	175	included above

In addition, there are the immeasurable benefits of exposure in national media and sports publications.