

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN**

**ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2004**

**Question 1**

Following answers to questions on 9th November 2004, regarding the £105,000 grant to the Jersey Potato Export Marketing Board (JPEMB) in respect of the Vodka Distillery, would the President provide members with a further breakdown and explanation of the following -

- (a) expenditure in the sum of £4,529.63 for travel/accommodation, including, if any, flight booking details relating to method of booking and class of travel, and any sum spent on entertainment? and,
- (b) expenditure in the sum of £20,428 for financial and legal fees?

**Answer**

Expenditure on travel/accommodation in the sum of £4,529.63 is made up of the following –

air and sea travel fares	£1,490.43	
train and taxi fares	£ 633.86	
accommodation	£ 893.55	
meals/entertainment	£1,328.40	
miscellaneous (telephone calls, photocopying etc.)		£ 183.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,529.63.</b>	

All air and sea travel was booked either on the Internet or through Gray Dawes Travel.  
All tickets were for Economy Class.

£18,000 was paid to Alex Picot for accountancy services. (£10,000 on Stage 1 of the project and £8,000 on Stage 2.) All financial data that appears in both Stage reports was produced by Alex Picot.

£2,428 was paid to Viberts (Lawyers) for legal advice on the preparation of the prospectus for the project.

**Question 2**

Would the President inform members whether the grant expenditure has been audited, and, if not, will it be?

**Answer**

An internal audit of the Marketing Support Scheme, (under which sums of money were granted to the Vodka Project ), was carried out in July 2003. This audit was carried out in order to provide the Economic Development Committee with assurance that adequate financial controls were operating within the Department to minimise any potential financial risk in respect of Marketing Support provided. The outcome of the audit was an evaluation of four out of a possible five, being excellent. Jersey Agriculture is to undergo a further audit on all financial aid schemes, in accordance with normal practice.