WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY, 7th NOVEMBER 2006

Question

- (a) Further to his written answer on 24th October 2006 concerning funding for event-led tourism, would the Minister list for members the breakdown of which events have been, and will be, supported for each of the years 2005, 2006 and 2007 setting out the amount allocated for each event?
- (b) Would the Minister clarify what the difference is between 'grants' and 'events' in the overall figures which refer to a budget for 'grants and events'?
- (c) For each of the years above would the Minister specify from which budget each grant or event was, or will be, sourced, and state, in particular, what other areas of the Department's budget were reprioritised to provide the additional £145,000 funding for 2006 he referred to in his previous answer?
- (d) Would the Minister set out, for each of the above years, what sums have been allocated from the Tourism Development Fund (TDF), and in what way, if any, the regulation and terms of use of funds from the TDF funds differ from the use of other funds from the Department?
- (e) Would the Minister justify his statement made in answer to another written question on 24th October 2006 that the proposed allocation of funding for 'grants and events' for 2007 represents a 'greater emphasis on event-led components of the Jersey [tourism] offering' when that answer showed that the actual increase in funding from 2005 (actual) to 2007 (proposed) is only £31,500 (£607,500 in 2005 and £639,000 for 2007)?

Answer

- (a) The attached spreadsheet provides a comparison between the years of 2005 and 2006 for grants made to external organisations by the former Economic Development Committee in 2005 and by the Minister in 2006. Information for 2007 is not yet available as many of the grants are still being negotiated. I can however confirm that in line with the policy of supporting event led tourism as a major pillar of the visitor economy, that there will be a significant investment in this area next year for which a zero based budget has been prepared.
- (b) In addition to the grants allocated to event organisers for the two years in question, the department has also managed a separate [Jersey Tourism] managed events budget each year.
- (c) For the avoidance of doubt, I assume that the £145,000 referred to in the question relates to:
 - (a) £50,000 additional from the Battle of Flowers
 - (b) 45,000 additional support for the Battle of Flowers
 - (c) air display

Taking each of the figures in turn, the source of fundings are:

- (a) carry forward/brought forward from 2005.
- (b) as answered in the above question. Initial indication that it could be available from the TDF but depending on end of year figures, likely under spend through prudent accounting for 2006 within the overall budget
- (c) see under spend from carry forward 2005 as agreed by the Council of Ministers.

- (d) From it's inception in 2001 until the introduction of Ministerial Government the TourismDevelopment Fund was a Sub-Committee of the Economic Development Committee. It is now an Independent Panel, comprising four members, chaired by Mr John King and carrying out essentially the same function as the Sub-Committee, i.e. review applications for funding for tourism related projects in line with the agreed criteria. Annual reports have been submitted to Members each year. In 2005 a total of £1,466,310 was committed for various projects and in 2006 £187,900 has been committed to date.
- (e) The question relates to comparative budgets for event led tourism from 2005 to 2006 and 2007. The Deputy will be well aware of the FSR cuts that were imposed on the former Economic Development Committee for budget year 2006. The Committee of the day made it clear that they would deliver FSR savings by reducing the event led tourism budget. I have made it clear that I did not support the cutting back of event led tourism budgets and have therefore worked with the department to find alternative ways of increasing the funding for event led tourism. Event led tourism is a vital component of our own ideas and strategies concerning the revitalisation of the tourism economy. Moreover the department is now working much more closely than in the past with the Education, Sport & Culture specifically the Assistant Minister with responsibility for Culture and the new Cultural Co-ordinator to better co-ordinate cultural and tourism and the event led programme.

EVENT	Date	2005	2006
Petanque	April	500	500
MG Owners Rally	April / May	2000	1500
Intl. Air Rally	May	500	500
Prehistoric Jersey	June		3000
Festival of Motoring	June	6000	4000
Tour des Ports	July	2000	2000
Canine Come Dancing	July		500
Battle of Flowers	August	95000	95000
Tudor Market	August		7000
Jersey Live Music Festival	September	5000	5000
Sailing Regatta	September	500	500
Intl. Air Display	September	50000	50000
National 9s Golf	September	4000	3000
Tennerfest	October / November	10000	10000
Round Island Challenge	October	1000	1000
PGA Golf	October	4500	1000
Sea Bass Fest	October	1500	1000
International Choir Festival	October		3000
World Bar Billiards	November	750	750
Casting Club	November	300	250
Arts Centre	Year Events	80000	50000
LTA Tennis Events	Jan & October		3000
Chess Festival	February	720	
Jersey Festival of Pool	February	750	
Nelson's Navy Exhibition	Year Round	7000	
Body and Soul	May	500	
RJA Country Fayre	May	6000	
La Fete Nouormande	May	5000	
Jersey Race Club	Year Round	3000	
Time Travellers	May	3000	

RJA Flower Shows	June & Aug	3000	
Rose & Flower Show	June	6000	
Classic Vehicle Show	July	350	
Jazz in the Park	July	2000	
Intl Football Tournament	August	5000	
Seaside Festival	August	5000	
La Ferme Open Farm	August	500	
Film Festival	August	8000	
Beach Iron Man	August	500	
Telling Tales	August	3000	
Arts Festival	September	10000	
Rolls Royce Weekend	September	1000	
CAMRA Real Ale	September	1000	
La Fais'sie d'cidre	October	3000	
Poultry Show	December	500	
Motorcycle and Light Car Club	Year Round	500	
Band of the Island of Jersey	Year Round	10000	
Howard Davis Park Bands	Year Round	2000	
Howard Davis Park Maintanence	Year Round	3500	
Amount Used		354370	242500
Total Grant Budget		356600	238500
Left to allocate	-	2230	-4000
Over budget by			4000