

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING
BY SENATOR B.E. SHENTON**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY, 10th OCTOBER 2006

Question

Would the Minister disclose how much it costs to produce the 'Community News - The Newsletter from States of Jersey Housing' newsletter, and any other newsletters produced by his Department, including –

- (i) the number of employees involved?
- (ii) total hours required?
- (iii) editorial costs?
- (iv) printing costs? (including the cost of all materials)
- (v) distribution costs?

Answer

- (i) Community News is produced three times a year. It is one of the many duties undertaken by the Tenant Participation Team. The Team, consisting of two staff, was formed within existing resources. No additional manpower has been recruited to produce the newsletter. Articles are provided by tenants and staff, with the long term aim that Community News is produced entirely by Residents Associations.

The Department has experimented with a number of different formats in order to ascertain the most acceptable, both to tenants in terms of layout and the Department, in terms of cost. Community News is well received by residents especially the elderly. It is seen by the Department as an effective means of communicating and is an important part of their engagement strategy.

- (ii) The Tenant Participation Team spend approximately 16 hours producing each issue. This equates to a cost of approximately £345.
- (iii) Editorial costs are kept to a minimum as these are undertaken by senior staff outside of office hours.
- (iv) The Department has negotiated a set price with a firm of printers which includes typesetting, printing, enveloping and delivery. This service to some 4,600 States Tenants costs £2,569.

The Housing Department produces a number of informative newsletters throughout the year targeting particular estates in terms of maintenance or tenancy issues. These are produced 'in-house' and as numbers are relatively low, are delivered manually by staff of the department, as part of their everyday duties.