

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 1st MAY 2007

Question

- a) Would the Minister inform members –
- (i) what proportion of the £2.5 million required to fund the 2007 States employees' pay award his department has had to absorb?
 - (ii) what measures have been taken to meet this additional cost?
 - (iii) whether such actions amount to service cuts or delays in certain activities, and
- b) Would the Minister place these in context of measures already taken in response to the need for efficiency savings for 2007?

Answer

- a)
- (i) The department has been asked to absorb £57,000 of the £2.5 million required to fund the 2007 States employees' pay award, against a background of already being under-resourced.
 - (ii) The additional cost can only be met from a combination of staff savings and from a projected increase in income.
 - (iii) It is anticipated that the "one-off" additional cost totalling £57,000 could result in a reduction in the service provided by the Planning and Environment Department, unless we can generate an increase in planning and building fee income.
- b) In terms of context the additional £57,000 is in addition to the £50,900 of efficiency savings the department has already been tasked with achieving in 2007.

The Department is on schedule to achieve its 2007 efficiency saving target and will make every effort to achieve the prescribed savings with minimum impact on front line services.