

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
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) Economic Development has had to absorb £27,700 of the £2.5 million required to fund the 2007 States employees' pay award
 - (ii) The department undertakes a monthly budget forecasting exercise to monitor and control its budget. Current forecasts show that the department can accommodate the cost in 2007 without detrimental effect to the business plan.
 - (iii) It is not anticipated that there will be service cuts or delays in activities in 2007.
- b) The department was required to make £155,800 efficiency savings in 2007. These were achieved by a fundamental review of the department's expenditure.

The reduction in funding arising from the 2007 pay award is for one year only as it will be factored into the Department's base budgets from 2008. It is, therefore, expected that the 2007 pay award cost will be accommodated by close control of the 2007 budget.