

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES BY  
DEPUTY P.V.F. LE CLAIRE OF ST. HELIER**

**ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 11th MARCH 2008**

**Question**

“(1) For 2006, would the Minister advise –

- (a) the amount of revenue generated from the sale of 1.6 million litres of "Genuine Jersey" soil improver from composting;
- (b) how these were funds disbursed?
- (c) how much profit or loss each litre of compost sold resulted in?
- (d) how these figures were derived?

**Answer**

It should be noted that due to a change in the chart of accounts between 2006 and 2007 and operational difficulties encountered during 2007, direct comparisons between the costs of the green waste operation between the two years are difficult to make.

It must also be stated that the primary reason for the green waste composting site is to dispose of commercial and domestic green waste in accordance with the principals of the waste hierarchy and prevent such arising from entering the Energy from Waste facility at Bellozanne. The green waste disposal site's fundamental role is not for generating income and the Genuine Jersey Soil Improver is an engineered by-product of the green waste composting process.

- (a) In 2006 1,858,800 litres of Genuine Jersey Soil Improver were sold and this generated an income of £63,157.
- (b) The income from the sale of Genuine Jersey Soil Improver was used to help offset the operational costs of running the Green Waste Composting site.
- (c) In 2006 it costs £0.29 per litre to produce Genuine Jersey Soil Improver. It should however be noted that if no Genuine Jersey Soil Improver had been made, the overall cost of operating the green waste composting site would have been £63,157 higher.
- (d) The profit / loss figure is the operational cost of the green waste composting site divided by the quantity, in litres, of Genuine Jersey Soil Improver produced and sold. The base financial figures are from the 2006 accounting records and the quantity of Soil Improver sold is from the Departments own records.

**Question**

(2) In 2007 would the Minister advise –

- (a) how many litres of "Genuine Jersey" soil improver the department sold?
- (b) how much money was derived from these sales and to whom the money was disbursed?

- (c) how much profit or loss each litre of compost sold resulted in or attained?
- (d) what the total expenditure in 2007 for compost operations was, including machinery purchased?
- (e) how these figures were derived?

**Answer**

- (a) In 2007 the Department sold 403,000 litres of Genuine Jersey Soil Improver.
- (b) The income generated was £46,423 and this was used to help offset the operational costs of running the Green Waste Composting site.
- (c) In 2007 it costs £1.75 per litre to produce Genuine Jersey Soil Improver. This cost is completely different to the 2006 cost due to the change in accounting and the reduced quantity of Genuine Jersey Soil Improver produced.
- (d) In 2007 the operational costs of running the green waste composting site was £705,278. In addition to this a new green waste shredder was purchased at a one off cost of £222,000.
- (e) The profit / loss figure is the operational cost of the green waste composting site divided by the quantity of Genuine Jersey Soil Improver produced and sold. The base financial figures are from the 2007 accounting records and the quantity of Soil Improver sold is from the Departments own records.

**Question**

- (3) Is the Department currently mixing sewage with compost?

**Answer**

The Department is not mixing sewage with compost.

**Question**

- (4) What stage is the department currently at in identifying and providing a contained compost operation?

**Answer**

A Ministerial Decision (MD-T-2007-0113) was taken by the Minister TTS on 11 December 2007 to approve the selection of the La Collette industrial area as the confirmed preferred location for the replacement enclosed composting facility and the Transport and Technical Services Department is now looking to progress a full Environmental Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment.

**Question**

- (5) What were the States' contributions in 2006 and 2007 in terms of pensions for employees involved in the compost operations?"

**Answer**

Based on the permanent staff employed to manage and operate the La Collette Green Waste Composting site and taking 20% of the external manager pension costs, the total States pension contribution, not

including the employee's contribution for 2006 was £15,839 and for 2007 it was £16,913. These figures do not take into account the pension contributions for staff drafted in to cover for sickness, holidays, weekend cover or irregular labour demands.

Note: The difference between the income per litre in 2006 and 2007 is due to the fact that Soil Improver is sold on a sliding price scale which is dependant on the quantity ordered. In 2007 emphasis was placed on the sale of bagged Soil Improver to the garden centres. This method of sale gives a greater income than that of loose or bulk bag delivery.