

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY T.A. VALLOIS OF ST. SAVIOUR
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 8th JUNE 2010**

Question

“As he has responsibility for international affairs for the States of Jersey, could the Chief Minister provide details of the work done by his department on an international level for all industries in the Island?”

Answer

This question covers a very wide area so the following answer is only an initial summary. Further detail can be provided if required.

The responsibilities of the Chief Minister’s Department include conducting Jersey’s international relations. The Economic Development Department has the lead role on international matters relating to specific industries. For example, Economic Development has responsibility for the part funding of the international marketing efforts of Jersey Finance Limited.

The Chief Minister’s Department leads on matters of international finance from a government perspective, which includes developing and overseeing economic strategy and representing Jersey’s interest to a wide range of international institutions, regional organisations and other governments. The Department is actively taking forward media relations and political engagement with key audiences including London, Brussels and Washington.

In addition, the Chief Minister’s Department is responsible for setting the strategy for tackling money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism, the extension of international conventions, for example to tackle financial crime, and the introduction of international sanctions measures against terrorists and unacceptable regimes.

Tax Information Exchange Agreements and Double Tax Agreements are negotiated and concluded by officials in my Department, who are also involved in Jersey’s representation on the OECD Peer Review Group.

Separately, the International Relations section within the Chief Ministers Department provides support and advice to all other government departments and industries on international matters. This includes proactive initiatives and response to challenges across the widest possible area.

Recently, for example, they have worked closely with Jersey Tourism on initiatives such as the Tour de Bretagne cycle race and Tour des Ports yacht race; they are assisting Jersey Airport on a range of issues vital to aviation safety and security; they have agreed arrangements to enable the fishing industry to continue to trade freely with Europe; and they have been active in support of the fulfilment industry ensuring they meet international standards. In addition, they are engaged with Economic Development on key initiatives such as the further development of an intellectual property industry for Jersey.