

2.6 Deputy M. Tadier of the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture regarding travel grants funded by public monies:

Will the Minister advise how much public money was given last year in travel grants to local sports people and clubs and also to individuals and groups to access cultural events via such means as the Jersey Arts Trust Travel Grants and the Rivington Travelling Scholarship?

Deputy P.J.D. Ryan of St. John (The Minister for Education, Sport and Culture):

The Advisory Council for Sport and Leisure awarded £176,223 in grants to sports clubs and associations in 2011. The Jersey School Sports Association was awarded £50,000 to support representative teams to travel off-Island to participate in a range of sporting activities. The Jersey Arts Trust has a budget of £52,050 which it allocated to local arts practitioners, although my understanding is that the Jersey Arts Trust receives a low demand for off-island travel and only some 10 per cent of that £52,050 was allocated to off-island travel. The Rivington Travelling Scholarship allocated grants of £960 from the fund.

2.6.1 Deputy M. Tadier:

The first question is can the Minister confirm whether those figures relating to sports are cumulative? So, the £117,000 and the ... is the £50,000 allocated to schools additional or included within the first figure?

The Deputy of St. John:

The £50,000 is additional to the £176,223.

2.6.2 Deputy M. Tadier:

I do have to declare an interest in this because I am a member of the Arts Centre Management Committee, which is part of the reason I am asking. Does the Minister acknowledge the importance of not only sports ambassadors for Jersey but also cultural ambassadors who are travelling often to the U.K. (United Kingdom) or elsewhere to do with cultural events... the importance it brings to the Island both economically and culturally? And will the Minister endeavour to address perhaps the lack of balance in sports funding and arts funding for travel purposes?

The Deputy of St. John:

The answer to the first part of that question is yes, I do, as I already said in my answer. Though, however, when it comes to the second part of the Deputy's question, my understanding is that the Arts Trust, although it has a budget of £252,000-odd to allocate to local arts practitioners, the majority of the demand is for local events and local participation of various of kinds and there is not a huge demand for off-island travel. Nevertheless, it would be quite appropriate for any local artists to apply to the Jersey Arts Trust for off-island travel in the normal way.