WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 18TH JULY 2017

Question

Will the Chief Minister advise Members what the full cost of legal representation was for States Departments, the Law Officers' Department, and the Bailiff's Chambers at the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry, breaking the figures down by each department? Will he also confirm whether or not these sums have been, or will be, taxed to ensure the fees charged are allowable?

Answer

A Freedom of Information answer was published on 9th June 2017: https://www.gov.je/Government/Pages/StatesReports.aspx?ReportID=2890

This answer set out that, for the latest confirmed costs (to the end of February 2017), total costs of the Inquiry were £21,632,184.

Within this amount the total expenditure on lawyers' fees (acting for the Inquiry Panel, States departments, witnesses and interested parties) to the end of February 2017 was £13,769,805.

Total legal costs for States Departments were £4,765,830 broken down as follows:

Law Officers' Department £1,210,919 States of Jersey Police £1,290,428 All other departments £2,264,483

The Bailiff's Chambers were not an Interested Party for the purposes of the Inquiry.

The process of taxation is undertaken at the conclusion of litigation to determine the costs which should be allowed.