3.21 Deputy M.R. Scott of St. Brelade of the President of the Scrutiny Liaison Committee regarding use, type, and cost of special advisers by Scrutiny Panels (OQ.148/2025):

Will the President state the number and type of special advisers engaged by Scrutiny Panels from 2022 to date, including whether they were retained for a single project or on an ongoing general retainer and will she also provide the total cost of such expertise?

Deputy I. Gardiner of St. Helier North (President, Scrutiny Liaison Committee):

Scrutiny engage with expert advisers on a regular basis, both paid and unpaid. From the beginning of the current Assembly term in 2022 to date a total of 5 separate contracts have been entered into on behalf of Scrutiny Panels in order to engage expert advisers to provide independent specialist technical advice to the panel during the course of 5 reviews. The contracts have been with 5 different companies or individuals. The total expenditure of this engagement totalled at £62,025. These advisers are appointed on a project-specific basis and Scrutiny has not engaged any advisers on a general retainer.

3.21.1 Deputy M.R. Scott:

What is the Greffe budget for special advisers to Scrutiny Panels for this year? Has the Scrutiny Liaison Committee been involved in agreeing it? Was there any underspend last year?

Deputy I. Gardiner:

The total budget for this year is £200. It was an underspend last year. I do not have a number in front of me and I am happy to follow it up.