

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY R.J. WARD OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2019**

Question

Was there a cost to the public purse, in terms of both preparation time and the time spent at the event, of the Chief Executive's recent address to the Chamber of Commerce; and if so, what was the cost?

Answer

Speaking to stakeholders is part of the core responsibility of the Chief Executive. Therefore, any preparation for such an event, and his attendance at it, is not differentiated from any other responsibilities, engagement or communication, and no separate assessment is made of the time or notional cost involved.

However, in this instance most of the preparation was done by the Chief Executive personally over several evenings and two weekends, as well as a few hours' time in drafting and editing in total by a senior civil servant, over a number of days, only some of which occurred during contractual working hours.

It is therefore impossible to provide an estimate, especially since the Chief Executive and the senior civil servant concerned routinely work significantly beyond their contractual hours without this time being remunerated. The event itself took place at lunchtime. As part of his duties, the Chief Executive regularly attends meetings and events outside working hours at no cost to the public purse.

Cost of Producing Answer

The cost of answering this question was negligible