

**QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES
COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2003, BY DEPUTY C.H. EGRÉ OF ST. PETER**

Question

Would the President advise members –

- (a) whether the Committee is satisfied that corporate expenditure on IT since 2000 demonstrates value for money and has delivered tangible savings? and,
- (b) what steps, if any, is the Committee taking to demonstrate that the States will receive value for money from the £23 million budget for corporate IT identified in the proposed Budget for 2004-2008?

Answer

- (a) The Committee has not been entirely satisfied that expenditure on IT has demonstrated value for money in the period from 2000-2002. This is because historically the devolved, departmental system, where the majority of expenditure was incurred, has not necessarily provided the coherence and consistency required to ensure value for money across the States.

For the period since 2003, the Committee is satisfied that appropriate mechanisms are in place to ensure best value is taken in corporate IT projects; each is supported by business cases that identify benefits and formal tender processes are used in procuring IT goods and services;

- (b) for the future there are two developments which the Committee believes will demonstrate value for money is achieved. Firstly, the Corporate Management Board, the IT Strategy Group and the Corporate Projects Board are established and will provide the necessary governance surrounding project approval, allocation of resources and delivery of benefit. Secondly, The IT Director has proposed a new organisation structure for IT across the States, which involves a mix of central and departmental control, with an IT Head of Profession, which is designed to ensure that IT expenditure fits with agreed States strategy and resources are allocated appropriately. This is currently being considered by the Corporate Management Board and it is hoped it will be in place early in the new year.