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WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES BY DEPUTY S.Y. MÉZEC OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 12TH JULY 2016

Question

How much money has been budgeted for promotion of the Draft Medium Term Financial Plan Addition for 2017-19, including on the futurefocused.gov.je website, graphics and design, and how much of that budget has been spent to date?

Answer

The Medium Term Financial Plan is a large and complex document, and it is essential that it is explained to islanders in an accessible way. Many islanders will not have the time to read the document in full so the Council of Ministers has been looking for additional ways to explain it in summary form. The full document is also available on the site for those who want detailed information.

A document site was commissioned, designed and built at a cost of £9,964.50. The architecture for the site will also be used for subsequent government projects, so this is an investment for the future. As government moves towards more digital ways of communicating, this document site has environmental benefits and is in line with our commitment to e-government.

In addition, to communicate the plan, £9,754.60 is allocated per month until September to continue communicating with islanders. This will contribute to work on updating the website with more detailed information as we establish the questions Islanders have about the plan. It will also support the writing of blogs and news releases, responding to queries on social media and arranging face to face public meetings.

The cost of designing, printing and binding previous financial plans each year (Budget and MTFP Annex Update) has been approximately £15,000 per annum. The first MTFP (2013-2015) cost approximately £55,000, including elements of rebranding which are still in use. The savings from reductions in printing compared to previous years have already been taken account of in the MTFP Addition by the Treasury and Resources Department.

None of this budget has been paid out as yet.