WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS BY DEPUTY M. TADIER OF ST. BRELADE ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 29th JANUARY 2013

Question

Will the Minister give a breakdown of the total cost to his Department in respect of the disciplinary action against three of the officers involved with the importation of illegal drugs in 2007, as follows -

- (a) The cost of the criminal investigation by Hampshire Police and their associated legal costs?
- (b) The States' police's legal costs preceding the disciplinary Hearing?
- (c) The cost of the disciplinary hearing including the legal advice for the Presiding Officer?
- (d) The travel and accommodation cost for the various officers attending the disciplinary Hearing?

and advise from which budget the funding is coming from?

Answer

It is only possible to give precise figures for bills paid to date for matters other than normal police officers' time and the figures below refer to this.

- (a) It should be noted that the investigation into the actions of the three officers started as a general review of police actions. As issues arose, it became an investigation into potential criminal and / or disciplinary proceedings. The total cost of the whole process was £117,104.
- (b) There was more than one disciplinary hearing, so I am not sure as to which hearing the Deputy is referring. This notwithstanding, it is not possible to separate out the legal costs incurred preceding any disciplinary hearing from those incurred during a disciplinary hearing as, understandably, a great deal of work is done in the run up to a hearing as well as during. The total legal costs associated with the disciplinary hearings to date are £119,808. This figure includes the £10,000 that I agreed to contribute towards the legal costs to ensure equality of arms for both sides after it was brought to my attention by the independent Chief Officer conducting the disciplinary proceedings that the financial resources available to the Police Association may be exceeded.
- (c) The cost of the disciplinary hearings including the legal advice for the Presiding Officer to date are £6,192.
- (d) The cost of travel and accommodation for the officers attending the disciplinary hearings to date are £4,562.

The budget is part of expenditure on Police Operations and has been funded from the 2012 Police Budget.