

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 14TH NOVEMBER 2017**

Question

Could the Chief Minister provide the average cost per case of using a U.K. Commissioner for Royal Court proceedings?

Answer

The provision of UK Commissioners in the Royal Court is managed by the Bailiff's Chambers. The average figure for a UK Commissioner per case varies considerably depending on the length of the proceedings, the nature of the court and other particular constraints of a Jersey based judge sitting.

In total, spend on UK Commissioners for 2016 was £16,691.76 for 5 cases, and for 2017 to date was £42,780.48 for 7 cases.

To provide more context, the cost for a UK Commissioner for the current year is:

- a. Fees - £864.60 per day;
- b. Travel - £400 per visit;
- c. Hotel - approximately £100 - £140 per day;
- d. Transport – up to £100 per day;
- e. Expenses – approximately £30 per day.

It should be noted that UK Commissioners are only appointed in the following circumstances:

1. For his/her specialist skills and extensive experience in a particular field;
2. In order to satisfy an objection to a local Judge sitting;
3. When there has been a perceived need to have an external Judge sit e.g. for the historic child abuse cases between 2008 and 2011.