

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 19th JUNE 2007

Question

With regard to the Jersey Community Relations Trust, would the Chief Minister advise –

- (a) who the current members are?
- (b) how often they meet?
- (c) whether any member has missed more than 10% of meetings and, if so, how many?
- (d) achievements of the Trust to date?
- (e) funds expended to date?

Answer

- (a) The current Trustees are -

Mrs Iris Le Feuvre, MBE

Mrs Marisha Carter

Mr Freddie Cohen (now Senator*)

Mr Nick Hutchinson

Mr Geoff Cornwall

Mrs Collete Crill

Mr Tim Langlois

Mrs Lorna Pestana

* Senator Cohen was not a States member when he was appointed as an independent Trustee, and has continued as a member of the Committee since his election, in accordance with paragraph 5.9 of the Trust's Constitution.

The terms of office of the Chairman of the Trust (Mr. Nick Hutchinson) and the States-appointed Trustee (Senator Philip Ozouf) expired on 7th June 2007, and I will be bringing forward a proposition to the States in the very near future for their reappointment or replacement.

- (b) The Constitution of the Trust requires that the Committee of Trustees should meet not less than four times a year.

In 2005 the Trustees met on five occasions; in 2006 they met seven times; and in 2007, up to May, they have met five times.

- (c) The Trust is an independent body. The Chief Minister's Department does not participate in meetings of the Trustees, and keeps no record of attendance by the Trustees.

However, the Trust has informed me that all but two of the Trustees have missed more than 10% of the meetings, for valid reasons. The number of Trustees is based on an assumption that not all can attend every meeting, since all are volunteers and the majority have full-time jobs and other commitments.

Meetings are therefore deliberately alternated between early mornings or lunchtimes, to provide flexibility for those who are unable to attend at one of these times.

The average meeting attendance was 74% which, in my opinion, is very good given the voluntary nature of the role, and all the Trustees should be commended for their commitment and support for the Trust.

- (d) The achievements of the Trust were listed in the Community Relations Trust's Strategic Plan 2007-2011, presented to the States by the Chief Minister on 27th March 2007 (RC. 29/2007). These included -
- Preparing a directory of organisations involved in community relations issues
 - Establishing contacts points for the public and publishing a website
 - Organising an educational exhibition in conjunction with the Anne Frank Centre
 - Organising public meetings to promote the objectives of the Trust
 - Developing a business plan
 - Developing a link with Rwanda on community issues
 - Actively contributing to consultation on human rights, immigration and discrimination law proposals
 - Actively contributing to the school citizenship curriculum on discrimination issues
 - Engaging with the Statistics User Group to develop indicators on community relations
 - Organising promotional events to raise awareness of community relations issues
 - Organising events to engage community cohesion, e.g. Live8Jersey
 - Giving support for 10 small scale projects to promote community relations
 - Launching an island-wide Anti-discrimination Promise for businesses and public sector organisations.

In 2007, the Trust will –

- Organise a major Discrimination Conference – on 7 September
 - Roll-out further the Anti-discrimination Promise
 - Further increase its profile and business activities.
- (e) The Trust received an initial pump-priming grant approved by the States of £100,000, which was intended to support it for the first 18 months, and has since then raised a further £48,000. In its first three years the Trust has spent £127,000 and, at the time of preparing its Strategic Plan, it had £21,000 in balance.