

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

**ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 29th APRIL 2008**

**Question**

“The Draft Business Plan for 2009 contains, under ‘Chief Minister’s Department, 2009 Additional Spending Pressures’ a sum of £200,000 for ‘Town Regeneration Strategy’. Would the Minister give details of the work to which this sum relates?”

**Answer**

This funding pressure relates to the initial funding for the St Helier development and Regeneration Strategy. In the longer term profits from the Waterfront developments will be used, but they will not be available for some time.

Members will be aware of the proposed arrangements for driving forward the strategy for the regeneration of St Helier which are described in P.194/2007 which proposes the establishment of the Jersey Enterprise Board.

P.194/2007 proposes the setting-up of a Regeneration Task Force (RTF) which will take lead responsibility for implementing the Regeneration Strategy, and will be supported by an executive, for whose work there is presently no funding available. The establishment of RTF will enable a more cohesive, integrated, cross-departmental approach to regeneration. In the first instance, it is necessary to turn the Strategy into a detailed implementation plan, and RTF will oversee its implementation in partnership with business and developers.

The funding will replace the ‘Urban Renewal Fund’ which has been used by the Planning and Environment Department in recent years to fund schemes of improvement to parts of the Town’s public realm. Examples include:

Broad St Regeneration (2005) – £530,000  
New Street improvements (2005) - £90,000  
Charing Cross (2005-7) - £105,000  
Conway St pedestrian improvements (2007) - £215,000

It is intended that works under the ‘Street Life’ programme would continue under this funding, and would include improvements to shopping streets such as Beresford St, Waterloo St, Burrard St and Minden Place and the narrow section of Bath St. It would be used to improve the main pedestrian routes into central St Helier and some of the smaller areas of public open space around the town. The RTF could also consider using this funding for more innovative purposes in line with the strategy to improve accommodation and the environment across the wider urban area of the town and other settlements.

Additionally the funding would be used to commission more detailed local area plans for the ‘Key Areas of Change’ identified in the St Helier Strategy, and Development Briefs for large private development sites as referred to in the recent ‘Town Development Guidelines’ planning policy guidance published by the Planning and Environment Minister.