WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER BY DEPUTY S. PITMAN OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 2nd JULY 2013

Question

How many individuals attended the evening meal with the Chief Minister on Sunday 23rd June 2013 at the 5 star Atlantic Hotel, who were they, what was the total cost, did this include alcohol, who paid the bill, what was the purpose and why was such an expensive venue deemed necessary?

Answer

12 individuals attended the dinner at the Atlantic Hotel on Sunday 23rd June.

The attendees were The Chief Minister, The Assistant Chief Minister for External Relations, The Treasury and Resources Minister, The Lieutenant-Governor, The Bailiff, the Director for International Affairs, the Deputy Director for International Affairs, an International Affairs officer, Sir Alan Beith MP, Elfyn Llwyd MP, Nick de Bois MP, and the Second Clerk to the Justice Select Committee.

The total cost of the dinner was £1084.75, including all drinks, and was met by the Chief Minister's Department.

This was a working dinner, the purpose of which was to discuss the Justice Committee's current inquiry, 'Crown Dependencies: Developments Since 2010'. The dinner provided the opportunity for the Committee to focus on the inquiry's main areas of interest, and ask related questions. The attendees from Jersey represent those whose roles involve the most frequent official engagement with the UK Ministry of Justice. They were therefore also able to inform the Committee of the many areas where progress has been made in Jersey's relationship with the UK Ministry of Justice following the Committee's 2010 report on the Crown Dependencies and of our further recommendations for developing and improving this relationship.

The Committee Members were staying overnight at the Atlantic Hotel, which is why the dinner was held at this venue. The Committee met the costs of their flights and accommodation.