

Reference e-mail from Jersey Live "The Home Affairs Scrutiny panel are currently investigating a proposal for a "User Pays" Policy for Policing events...Is this right?"

My opinion:

Policing is a service provided by the state for the public and should therefore be funded 100% by taxation and other forms of state revenue . Costs of policing should not be imposed upon organisers of events or other private sector businessmen. Organisers of events such as Jersey Live have a duty to provide security which should negate the requirement for a strong police presence and therefore the costs associated. In essence it should be the duty of the Police to assist and help organisers with their planning duties, not to burden them with heavy policing costs. This begs the question, WHAT ARE POLICE? Are they public servants there to help, serve and uphold the law or are they jumped up security goons with a badge! The real answer is obvious and accordingly the police service should only attend events in a supervisory capacity and to help security where individual cases require their assistance (ie. where laws are being broken or where urgent help is required). How many police are required to fulfill this job? I would guess not as many as I saw at Jersey Live 2007 ... or even half!!

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