

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
BY DEPUTY P.V.F. LE CLAIRE OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 1st DECEMBER 2009**

Question

“In figures circulated at the meeting on 18th November 2009, entitled ‘Gambling Control Current Income vs. Costs’ the building rent of the Gambling Control Department is given as £29,822 p.a. What does this comprise of and who is the landlord?

As the cleaning bill is £15,000 for this small group of workers, why is it costing over £1,000 per month?

What is the annual cleaning bill for all of Economic Development (section by section)?

Why is there an annual building maintenance cost of £9,000 per annum in addition to a rental charge of £29,822 per annum for the Gambling Control Department?”

Answer

The following is a summary/extract from a report presented to the States on the 18th February 2003 on the lease agreement of 24/26 Bath Street.

“On 12th March 2003, the former Finance and Economics Committee approved, on the recommendation from the Environment and Public Services Committee, the lease from Mr. Le Boutillier for office accommodation (measuring 2,503 square feet – which is £15.98 per square feet) at 24/26 Bath Street, being required for occupation by departments under the administration of the Economic Development Committee, for a period of nine years deemed to have commenced from 1st March 2003, at a commencing annual rent of £40,000 (exclusive) payable quarterly in advance.

The lessor agreed to an initial rent free period of 25 days of the agreement and therefore the first rental payment would be made on 25th March 2003 and quarterly thereafter. The rent was to be reviewed every three years in line with the Jersey Retail Price Index.

The lessee was to be responsible for internal repairs including all mechanical, electrical, fire alarm, and plumbing repairs/maintenance, plus lift maintenance/insurance. The lessor would remain responsible for external and structural repairs and maintenance and external decoration. The lessee was to be responsible for payment of all utilities consumed on the premises parochial occupier rates and the cleaning of the demised premises including the veranda. The lessor, throughout the lease and at his expense keep the in which the demised premises sit insured.

For the avoidance of doubt, the lease would to be in the name of the Environment and Public Services Committee but the responsibility in fulfilling the terms and conditions of the agreement would lie with the Economic Development Committee.”

The costs circulated during the meeting of the 18th November were for the year 2008 as these were the last year-end figures available. At that time and in accordance with the lease conditions noted above, staff from the Gambling Control function were still at bath street and maintenance costs had to be paid as required by the lease. Subsequently these premises have been relinquished.

The cleaning bill for the entire department is as follows:

Cleaning

Jubilee Wharf (EDD share) - JPH		
Regulation of Undertakings		
Regulatory		
Enterprise (part)		11,325
Liberation Place	19,919	
Liberation Place - JPH	13,000	
Tourism		
Corporate		
Enterprise (part)		32,919
Rural -HDF EDD share	1,450	1450
EDD Total		<u><u>45,694</u></u>