

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY S.Y. MÉZEC OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2016**

Question

Will the Chief Minister detail all occasions since he took office in 2011 on which the States has chartered a private aircraft to transport civil servants, politicians or political guests of the States (excluding any trips made for emergency medical reasons), including the date, the cost and who was on board?

Answer

The following table outline amounts spent on chartering private aircraft over the last five years to transport civil servants, politicians or political guests of the States.^{1 2}

Department	Outline	SPEND
Chief Minister's Department	Airline Charter for Estonian Ambassador (Jersey to London) (2016)	£4,050 ³

In addition, although not incurred on charters, in the interests of completeness, the following tables show amounts spent in reimbursing the expenses of private individuals transporting ministers and/or officials by air to different official functions on the continent over the last five years.

These flights were the lower cost and most convenient option, often noting the lack of direct scheduled flights. In many cases, these private aircraft are shared with other delegates, including from Guernsey as part of pan-Island events or meetings, to reduce costs.

ALL DEPARTMENTS

Department	Outline	SPEND
Chief Minister's Department	See separate table below	£1,609

¹ The analysis in all the tables is provided by year, and by department, with the reasons for the trip, and including where a Minister, Chief Officer, or senior officer who reports to a Chief Officer was on board (in the case of more junior officers, it simply noted how many were on the flight and which department).

² This question asks about chartered flights to transport civil servants, politicians or political guests of the States, however, it is also the case that flights are chartered for prisoner transfers and deportations, which by their nature are often unsuited to commercial flights. For the purposes of completeness, the total cost of these flights was £52,801 over the 5 years, and more can be found at on these flights by way of a response to a recent Freedom of Information question:

<https://www.gov.je/Government/FreedomOfInformation/Pages/FOIDisclosureLog.aspx>

³ The Government of Jersey paid the initial £4,050 cost of the airline charter. The charter company was able to sell a seat on the return leg of the journey to a private client for £1,500, and arrangements are being made for this sum to be credited against the original cost of the flight from the charter company. Statutory compensation and flight refund costs will also be recovered from the cancelled scheduled flight. If further opportunities to offset the original cost of the flight arise, these will also be credited against the £4,050.

Department of the Environment	Delegation to attend Bureau Iles Anglo-Normandes meeting in respect of renewable energy opportunities - Cherbourg (June 2013) – Director for Environmental Policy and Assistant Director for Environmental Policy	£232
Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture Department	Sign framework of co-operation in respect of renewable energy with the West Normandy marine park at the Thetis annual conference - Cherbourg (April 2014) – Assistant Minister, Economic Development, and Deputy Chief Officer, Economic Development Department	£232
Education Department	Visit to Caen to set up a scheme for Jersey students to learn French and attend University in France (November 2016) – three officers	£460
Other Departments	N/a	NIL
TOTAL		£2,533

CHIEF MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT - ANALYSIS

YEAR	OUTLINE	SPEND
2013	Financial Services Department - return flight for officer from a conference in Geneva.	£300.27
2015	Assistant Chief Minister – Competition, Digital, Financial Services and Innovation – to attend Paris Charlie Hebdo Rally – flight to Caen	£166.84
	External Relations Minister and one officer – to meet officials of the Brittany Region at the Department of Ille et Vilaine – Rennes	£127.25
	Chief Minister and two officers – Signing ceremony, Normandy Quad Partnership Agreement – Cherbourg	£111.64
	External Relations and one officer – Ministerial meeting with the President of Ille et Vilaine – Rennes	£217.00
2016	External Relations Minister – representing the Chief Minister for opening of first assembly of the new Council – Rouen	£300.00
	Chief Minister, Battle of Somme Commemoration and Tour De France – Caen, Abbeville, Cherbourg	£386.00
TOTAL		£1,609