

WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS BY DEPUTY S.S.P.A. POWER OF ST. BRELADE

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2008

Question

“Can the Minister give a statement of account of the monies expended in the nine months from January to September 2008 in relation to the historic child abuse enquiry, and provide some analysis with a final total broken down under the following headings – policing and investigative costs (including specialists brought in from outside the Island, police overtime, police drafted in from other forces); air and ferry travel costs; hotel costs (indicating which hotels were used); transport costs (car, van, mini-bus and bus hire); kennel costs; administration costs (including the number of laptops and desk-top computers provided for the investigation); contractor costs; plant hire costs; laundry bills; food and entertainment costs and any other relevant cost detail?”

Answer

The total unbudgeted costs incurred by the Historic Child Abuse Enquiry for the period January – September 2008 are £3,647,300. The unbudgeted costs can be broken down as follows:

Unbudgeted Costs 1 January - 30 September 2008

	£'000
Local Staff (States of Jersey Police and Agency)	206.2
Overtime	812.0
Officers from UK Forces and Agencies	938.0
Forensics	606.1
Travel	198.0
Hotel accommodation	568.8
Vehicle hire and running costs	9.0
IT and other equipment	86.4
Set up of Major Incident Room	68.3
Other costs	108.7
Meals and expenses	45.8
Total Unbudgeted Costs Incurred	3,647.3

The costs are included in the Ministerial Quarterly Financial Reports which are sent to the Minister for Treasury and Resources for collation with other Departments for consideration by the Council of Ministers.

For Members information, the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee has sought clarification in respect of the financial protocols in place while recognising that a detailed examination of the matter could not be undertaken at present because of possible pending prosecutions. With this in mind I would ask Members to limit any future questions regarding the Enquiry to those which will not detract the States of Jersey Police officers from the task in hand which is, as it has always been, to see a thorough, professional police investigation into the abuse allegations.