

2025.03.18

4.17 Deputy D.J. Warr of St. Helier South of the Minister for Infrastructure regarding the cost of maintaining Fort Regent (OQ.68/2025):

Will the Minister state whether the figure of £137,000 represents a maximum or minimum amount cost of maintaining Fort Regent and, if it is the latter, will he state the maximum cost as well as the average weekly footfall through the Fort in 2024 compared to 2025 to date and the number of organisations currently using the Fort for the same period?

Connétable A.N. Jehan of St. John (The Minister for Infrastructure):

I thank the Deputy for his question. In response to Written Question 77, it was stated that the forecast pre-planned maintenance cost for Fort Regent was £66,000 with an estimated reactive maintenance spend of between £70,000 and £80,000. These are forecast and estimated costs, and it is therefore impossible to state in absolute terms whether they are a minimum or a maximum spend or what a maximum spend might be. As Fort Regent is an open public space which is freely accessible from several locations, there is not a record of footfall. There are currently 17 organisations using Fort Regent and, as I said earlier this morning, that is down from 39 user groups 5 years ago. The majority have been found alternative locations or have chosen to locate elsewhere.

4.17.1 Deputy D.J. Warr:

I am interested to note that the footfall data is not available; I am extraordinarily surprised at that fact. What consideration has the Minister given to the health and well-being to those current users of the Fort when they no longer have access to the Fort?

The Connétable of St. John:

I am not sure how many times I have to say this, but we are investing £8.4 million in brand new purpose-built sport facilities at Oakfield. That will cater for many sports there. We also have other sites around the Island and I am working very closely with my colleague, the Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, to try and open up even more sites at the local schools where we can get more and more sport played and different activities taking place.

