

STATES OF JERSEY



DEVELOPMENT OF A CULTURAL STRATEGY FOR THE ISLAND (P.154/2005): COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 14th September 2005
by the Environment and Public Services Committee**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Committee notes that objective 2.4 is concerned with the maintenance and repair of buildings used by cultural organisations and proposes that the States ensure that there is adequate funding for such work as set out in maintenance plans.

The Committee administers the Opera House, St. James Centre and the Archive Centre, occupied by the Jersey Arts Trust and Jersey Heritage Trust respectively. Since taking on the administrative responsibility for these properties, the Committee has been unable to secure sufficient funds required to undertake the necessary annual planned maintenance schemes. In addition, the Trusts have not been able to identify sufficient funds in their budgets and hence have not been prepared to sign a lease on a “fully repairing” basis. The properties remain occupied without a lease at present.

Maintenance plans produced by the Property Services Division of the Environment and Public Services Committee estimate that on average, an average funding stream of £150,000 is required over the next 7 years for these properties. The annual budget currently available is £18,000, with a minor Capital Vote recently transferred from Education, Sport and Culture Committee of £125,000 for outstanding remedial works to the structure and fabric of St James and the Opera House.

The Committee therefore recommends that the States acknowledges, as part of this debate, this under-funding situation and requests that the Education, Sports and Culture Committee to ensure that adequate funding is in place so that all future leases to the Jersey Arts Trust and Jersey Heritage Trust are only made available on a “fully repairing” basis.