

7. The Minister for Treasury and Resources concerning the Drugs Trafficking Confiscation Fund.

7.1 Senator T.A. Le Sueur:

In the States on 30th January this year I gave a written answer to questions raised by Senator Perchard about the Criminal Offences Confiscation Fund and the Drugs Trafficking Confiscation Fund. The Treasury has now confirmed that the information supplied to the States in response to question 3161, regarding expenditure from the Drugs Trafficking Confiscation Fund, was incomplete for expenditure prior to 2001. The information supplied by the Treasury for this prior period was based on incomplete paper records. The error is very much regretted. Following the queries that were raised as a result of my original answer, the Comptroller and Auditor General has commenced a review of both Funds, which would include a detailed review of all expenditure from the Funds. I apologise to Members for inadvertently producing an answer which was initially incomplete, and I assure them that as soon as I am satisfied of the accuracy and completeness of relevant figures, I shall present an amended and updated answer to the Assembly giving a revised statement of expenditure and a full reconciliation of the Funds.

7.1.1 Senator J.L. Perchard:

I am delighted that the Comptroller and Auditor General has decided to review not only the Criminal Offences Confiscation Fund and the Drugs Trafficking Confiscation Fund, but all funds held in the name of the States of Jersey. Does the Minister agree that it would be in the public interest if the Comptroller and Auditor General review not only all expenditure from the funds - particularly the Drugs Offences Confiscation Fund and the Drugs Trafficking Confiscation Fund - but the receipts paid into these Funds and the obvious requirement to reconcile monies paid in to the funds?

Senator T.A. Le Sueur:

I confirm the Auditor General will set his own terms of reference, but I would anticipate that that would include reviewing both the income and the expenditure and reconciling those 2. That is why I said in my final paragraph that my updated answer would give a revised statement of expenditure and a full reconciliation of the funds.

The Bailiff:

No further questions. Well, we come now then to public business.