WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE BY DEPUTY D.J. WARR OF ST. HELIER SOUTH QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 16th JUNE 2025 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 23rd JUNE 2025

Ouestion

"Further to his statement during the Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel public hearing that no gap analysis had been carried out to understand the total sporting demand in Jersey, will the Minister detail on what basis the grant sum of £1.9 million for 2024 was calculated; and will he advise whether the sum of £4.6 million he quoted as being spent on maintaining the infrastructure of the Sports estate is adequate to ensure its future sustainability and, if not, what extra funding will be required to ensure it is sustainable in the future?"

Answer

A growth bid was made in 2020 for the 2020-2023 Government Plan in respect of funding for Jersey Sport to deliver their objectives under the Inspiring an Active Jersey strategy. In 2023, their budget was £2.14m inclusive of £125,000 funding for travel grants. Following required departmental savings in 2024, the core grant for Jersey Sport (not including travel funding) was reduced by £100,000 and Jersey Sport re-aligned their programme accordingly.

The £4.6 million figure referred to is the forecast net cost to the States of maintaining Government run/owned sports facilities (which are Fort Regent, Springfield, Oakfield, all the playing fields, Les Quennevais, Langford, and Haute Vallee) for 2025 and 2026. We are able to maintain and operate our facilities at present, but as I stated at the hearing on 12th June, additional funding will be required in future both to ensure that our facilities are up to date and well maintained, and for capital investment in replacement or new facilities. This is a matter which is currently being considered by the Council of Ministers.

Sporting demand is dynamic and driven by growth and development in sport. It is important that we remain agile in order to support the changing needs of our community. It is equally vital that Government continues to work with clubs and associations, as well as Jersey Sport, to identify the type of support that is required, and whether that support needs to be directly delivered or can be delivered through private investment in facilities and public-private partnerships.

Recently, we have agreed to undertake work in the tunnels at St Aubin to enable shooting clubs to continue operating there, as well as upgrading Springfield. A wide range of upgrades are also being enabled via lottery funding from the Jersey Community Foundation.