

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, SPORT AND
CULTURE BY SENATOR J.L. PERCHARD
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 7th JUNE 2011**

Question

Will the Minister –

- (a) Advise how much was spent by his Department on “non staff” advisors and consultants during 2010?
- (b) Provide a breakdown of the cost of “non staff” advisors and consultants engaged by his Department during 2010?

Answer

- (a) A total of £141,286 was spent by the Department on "non-staff" advisors and consultants during 2010.

It has to be recognised that independent advisers can have a valuable role to play, providing an efficient and cost-effective way of supplementing a department’s expertise so that it can meet its aims and objectives. Employing specialists precisely as and when they are needed means we can limit the number of full-time staff within the department.

The use of external consultants is carefully monitored and they are only used where specific skills are not available in-house, if departmental resources are fully committed for the required timescale or if an independent opinion, advice or investigation is required. Use of some expertise is inevitable because of the demands on our education service to keep in line with professional best practice and to maintain the highest possible standards in our schools.

- (b) "Non-staff" advisors and consultants were engaged to complete the following:
 - i. Produce training materials to meet the requirements of the Serious Case Review £6,000
 - ii. Review the management structure across the service £8,764
 - iii. Provide independent support and challenge to a review of the method of funding primary and secondary education; the Comprehensive Spending Review process plus development of future policy £22,019
 - iv. Review of Higher Education £17,905
 - v. Finance and Business Review of the Jersey Heritage Trust £45,944
 - vi. Social Inclusion Review £1,067
 - vii. Review to consider the potential for developing a closer working relationship between the heritage organisations £3,434
 - viii. Review of the Early Years and Childcare Partnership £16,929
 - ix. Employment of the then chair of the Higher Education Steering Group and subsequently the independent member of the Skills Jersey Board £19,224