

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR TREASURY AND RESOURCES  
BY THE DEPUTY OF GROUVILLE  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 14TH MARCH 2017**

**Question**

Will the Minister, as the shareholder representative for Jersey Water, provide the following information in respect of the desalination plant?

- (a) The number of times the plant was run between August 2016 and February 2017 inclusive (broken down on a monthly basis);
- (b) The quantity of water (in litres) pumped into the Island's reservoirs during the same period (broken down on a monthly basis); and
- (c) The cost of using the desalination plant during this same period (broken down on a monthly basis).

**Answer**

The Minister is informed that the desalination plant is currently undergoing an upgrade to extend the capacity of the plant to enable it to produce 10 million litres of water per day. For the duration of the project, the plant is under the control of the contractor who is responsible for determining the running of the plant and volumes of water produced. During commissioning and testing, the plant is subject to numerous short runs by the contractor to commission and test the correct operation of the plant and its control systems. This work is ongoing.

The Minister is further informed that the cost of running the plant during the testing and commissioning phase are included within the planned project costs for the extension and are therefore not an operating cost for Jersey Water.

The frequency of operation, volume of water produced and electricity costs are detailed in the table below. The water produced has been transferred to Val de la Mare Reservoir for storage and subsequent use. The total volume of water produced between August 2016 and February 2017 during testing and commissioning equates to approximately 3.3 days' demand for water or 2.5% of the Jersey Water's reservoir storage capacity.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Plant Runs / Month</b>	<b>Litres produced / Month</b>	<b>Electricity running costs* £</b>
August	0	0	0.00
September	5	2,700,000	5,007.22
October	8	11,387,000	7,194.80
November	26	34,625,000	6,273.50
December	1	3,149,000	39,157.82
January	0	0	0.00
February	13	14,311,000	5,796.53
		<b>66,172,000</b>	

\* There is a timing difference between the operation of the plant and the electricity charge due to the meter reading and billing cycle. Included in these figures are power costs associated with commissioning the pumps, filtration systems, quarry pool and other processes when no water was being produced by the plant. It is not possible to separate out these costs.