

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
BY THE DEPUTY OF ST. JOHN**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 7th DECEMBER 2004

Question

Will the President inform members whether the Committee intends to include the judicial departments and the Law Officers' Department in the proposed States Business Plan in support of the States Strategic Plan, to ensure a level playing field exists in relation to the even administration of public money in respect of matters such as the £10.7m., which is currently retained in the Criminal Offences Confiscation Fund, and, if not, the reasons why?

Answer

Yes, the Committee does propose to include the judicial departments and the Law Officers' Department in the proposed States Business Plan, in the same way that they are currently included in the Resource Plan and Budget, and cash limits for all departments will be included in this document.

The Criminal Offences Confiscation Fund (C.O.C.F.) is managed and controlled by the Finance and Economics Committee in accordance with Article 24 of the Proceeds of Crime (Jersey) Law 1999. The C.O.C.F. is a Special Fund which is outside general States revenues, and the Law specifies that it may be used '*in promoting or supporting measures that, in the opinion of the (Finance and Economics Committee), may assist –*

(i) in preventing, suppressing or otherwise dealing with criminal conduct;

(ii) in dealing with the consequences of criminal conduct; or

(iii) without prejudice to the generality of clauses (i) and (ii), in facilitating the enforcement of any enactment dealing with criminal conduct;

(b) discharging the Island's obligations under assets-sharing arrangements; and

(c) meeting the expenses incurred by the Committee in administering the Fund.'

Other examples of Special Funds include the General Reserve and the Social Security Reserve Fund. As with these other funds, the C.O.C.F. has not been included in the Resource Plan and Budget, nor will it be included in the Business Plan.