

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE
MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM, SPORT AND CULTURE
BY THE CONNÉTABLE OF ST. MARTIN
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 13th JULY 2020**

Question

What work, if any, has the Minister conducted, or intends to conduct, on ensuring the survival and promotion of the Island's arts and culture sector, or assisting in the sector's revival, in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic?

Answer

Since the start of the pandemic, Government officials have been in regular contact with the four grant-funded cultural, arts and heritage organisations - the Jersey Heritage Trust, Jersey Opera House, Jersey Arts Centre and ArtHouse Jersey - to monitor their position and to ensure they have sufficient financial support.

The cultural organisations that rely on tourists for a significant portion of their income have been particularly hard hit by the reduction in travel and the lockdown. Funding has been advanced, where necessary, and business cases are being developed for those organisations that require additional funding to continue operate. In addition, economic stimulus projects are in the early stages of being considered, including for refurbishment and maintenance of the Opera House.

Preparatory work on a new Heritage Strategy and a new Arts Strategy is also being progressed to position the culture sector for the future.