

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR
EDUCATION, SPORT AND CULTURE
BY DEPUTY R.G. LE HERISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2007

Question

Would the Minister inform members when the findings of the report into Higher Education will be published and would he state what payments, if any, have been made to date to the Group's adviser, Dr. Goldstein and for what number of hours worked?

Answer

In 2004, the Committee for Education, Sport and Culture commissioned Dr. Michael Goldstein to undertake a review of Higher Education with specific reference to its development in the Island. The report, 'A Review of Higher Education: The Next Steps' (often referred to as the Goldstein Report) was presented to the States on 12th April 2005. It recommended the expansion of higher education provision in the Island through the development of a Higher Education Academy.

Subsequently in October 2005, the Committee for Education, Sport and Culture agreed to establish a Higher Education Development Group (HEDG) -

'as a precursor to the development of the 'Jersey Higher Education Academy', to co-ordinate the provision and development of higher education within the island and to advise the States...on matters relating to need, development and funding.'

Dr. Michael Goldstein was invited to chair the Higher Education Development Group. To-date, the group has met on 12 occasions and each meeting has been of three hours or more. In addition, as Chairman of HEDG, Dr. Goldstein has also devoted time to meeting with a variety of people and organisations, on and off-Island to assist in the achievement of the goals established for the group. To-date, he has claimed fees of £24,085.65 for approximately 281/2 days (£850 per day).

I will be receiving the annual report, detailing the work of HEDG in 2006 after its meeting on 14th February, I understand it will contain a number of recommendations including -

a broader membership of HEDG;

the replacement of HEDG by a successor body – the Jersey Higher Education Commission;

the development of appropriate facilities for the delivery of higher education in the Island – a university centre for Jersey.

It is my intention to share the contents of this report with the Council of Ministers in March.