

RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO RULE 14 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

From	President, Scrutiny Management Committee
To	Deputy Christopher Le Tissier
Subject	Travel costs – October 2020 to March 2024
Date of Response	21 st June 2024

Question 1:

In respect of each month during the period October 2020 to March 2024 how many flights paid for by the States did each political member of the Scrutiny Management Committee take and to which destinations and what was the class of travel for each trip & member?

Response:

In accordance with Rule 14 (1), the responses to all questions are specifically in relation to the mandate of the Scrutiny Management Committee (SMC) and to travel related to the business of the SMC. No flights paid for by the States have been taken this term by political members of the SMC in relation to the business of the SMC.

Question 2:

In relation to question 1, what were the departure and return dates in respect of each member's trip from Guernsey, identifying which if any members extended their stay beyond States business for private/personal reasons?

Response:

See answer to Question 1.

Question 3:

What were the dates of the event/meeting?

Response:

See answer to Question 1.

Question 4:

The same questions 1, 2 & 3 applies, how many Civil Servants and/or advisors accompanied political members on each trip to include departure/return/meeting/events dates?

Response:

No flights paid for by the States have been taken by officers of the SMC in relation to the business of the SMC.

Question 5:

Which hotels paid for by the States did each political member of the Scrutiny Management Committee stay and for which nights during October 2020 – March 2024.

Response:

No hotels paid for by the States have been used by members of the SMC in relation to the business of the SMC.

Question 6:

What was the total cost of air fares, hotels and any other expenditure, including any standard day allowances in relation to the out of the island trips representing the States for each trip taken during the period October 2020 – March 2024 by each political member.

Response:

See previous answers.

Question 7:

What 'day allowances and other expenditure did each member receive for each trip during the period October 2020-March 2024?

Response:

See previous answers.

Question 8:

The same questions 5, 6 & 7 above applies to Civil Servants and/or advisors accompanying political members on each trip October 2020-March 2024

Response:

See previous answers.

Question 9:

In relation to previous Rule 6 (now numbered 11) questions on each members travel and expenditure during 2011 Deputy Trott as Chief Minister wrote 'in the spirit of moving towards more open and transparent Government, it is intended that information of this type will be provided as a matter of course in the next administration'. As this didn't happen questions were repeated in January 2015 addressed to Deputy Le Tocq as Chief Minister, when replying he stated 'The Policy Council has no objection to the general publication of Deputies travel expenditure when representing the island outside the Bailiwick on a regular basis and that an appropriate frequency would be annual publication. As Deputy Trott & Deputy Le Tocq both as Chief Ministers at various times sought publishing States members travel details as above, and neither have pursued this happening, will the President of the Scrutiny Management Committee give assurances in the interest of transparency and accountability an annual detailed report covering the above will be published in the public domain, highlighting each States members travel details, costs and the reason for the trip?

Response:

The SMC supports the principle of openness and transparency and, should a central register of travel and costs for all deputies such as is referred to in this question be established, the SMC will of course adhere to any requirements for reporting and disclosure. However, the question as written could be

seen to imply that it should be the responsibility of the SMC to do this for all States Members and, if that was the intention, we would respectfully point out that such work would not fall under the mandate of the SMC.

Question 10:

Would you agree that changes need to be made and that in the interest of transparency and accountability States members trips away on States business should be circulated to all Deputies within a reasonable time after the trip?

Response:

If such a register is to be established, then it should be done centrally and not through individual Committees given that not all travel undertaken is for the Committee that a deputy sits on, and not all deputies are members of a Committee. Further, it is considered that sending details to all deputies of every trip individually is excessive and in the event of it being agreed that such information should be published, annual publication would suffice.