

Access to Public Information Request

Date of receipt: 14 March 2019

Date of response: 10 April 2019

BREXIT - RESOURCES

Request for information:

Money spent on Brexit preparation/reaction for the States of Guernsey, in particular:

- How much has been budgeted for Brexit by the States of Guernsey since June 2016?
- How much of that money has been spent by the States of Guernsey so far dealing with Brexit?
- How many civil servant posts have been created as a result of Brexit within the States of Guernsey (Temporary and FTCs)?
- Have any Brexit impact studies been done by the States of Guernsey and if so have they been published?
- What plans are there for stockpiling in the result of a no deal Brexit?

Response:

Following a Referendum in the United Kingdom in June 2016 – where the majority of votes were in favour of leaving the European Union – the UK Prime Minister began the process of negotiating withdrawal from the EU in March 2017. That process is ongoing.

Information about Brexit and Guernsey is available here: <u>https://gov.gg/brexit</u> and information about the Guernsey's finances is available here: <u>https://www.gov.gg/article/162007/Finance</u>

In his most recent <u>update to the States of Deliberation</u>, the President of the Policy & Resources Committee said: "Guernsey offers stability...[but] will not be immune from the effects of Brexit...[the] delivery [of Brexit] is affecting us. It is drawing time, people and money away from our own government's priorities. But there is no point complaining about it; instead, we must just pragmatically get on with it."

The majority of Guernsey's Brexit-related work has been absorbed within existing resources and, save as detailed in the response to question 3, the figures below do not take into account staff costs.

1. How much has been budgeted for Brexit by the States of Guernsey since June 2016?

2016 – nil.

2017 – nil; however, part of the Budget Reserve was expressly to be made available for costs incurred in responding to Brexit; during the year, P&R approved £194,000 increase in revenue budgets for managing Brexit for the period until 29 March 2019.

2018 - nil; however, the Budget Reserve continued to be available for costs incurred in responding to Brexit. In addition, specific cash limits were made in respect of Brexit (totalling £285,000) for the period to 31 December 2020.

2019 - £3 million was allocated to a Brexit Transition Fund.

- 2. How much of that money has been spent by the States of Guernsey so far dealing with Brexit?
- 2017 £102,187
- 2018 Information not yet available.
- 2019 Information not yet available.

3. How many civil servant posts have been created as a result of Brexit within the States of Guernsey (Temporary and FTCs)?

There have been eight civil service posts created in consequence of Brexit (six FT; two PT). All appointments have been on a fixed-term contract basis.

4. Have any Brexit impact studies been done by the States of Guernsey and if so have they been published?

No single impact assessment or topic-specific assessments have been undertaken. However, a lot of work has been undertaken at various levels to assess, analyse and address the impacts on Guernsey of the developing Brexit scenarios. This work has included assessments, surveys, reviews and reports for internal use and prepared by civil servants or advisers with input from industry and the UK administrations, as required.

5. What plans are there for stockpiling in the result of a no deal Brexit?

Currently, the default position in law is for the UK to leave the EU without a negotiated deal at 11:00pm on Friday 12 April 2019. Part of the States of Guernsey's Brexit planning has included 'no deal' contingencies. Stockpiling has not formed part of such planning; however, arrangements are in place to ensure the continued availability of critical supplies.