



States of
Guernsey

Freedom of Information Request

Date of receipt: 13 May 2022

Date of response: 13 June 2022

Freedom of Information request regarding the Head of Retail Development position at the Guernsey Retail Group

Request:

I'd like to make an access to information request on the new Head of retail development position.

How did the idea come about?

What is the hoped effect of the position?

What was the job description advertised as?

What were the qualifications required for the role?

When did the position commence?

What was the agreed financial contribution and over what period, toward the position by the states of Guernsey?

Will it require higher levels of funding?

Are there any minimum requirements of the role?

How often is a report on findings being compiled for the states of Guernsey?

How was the position advertised?

Where was it advertised?

How many candidates applied?

What was the criteria used to recruit for the position?

Was experience in transforming a town or shopping centre a requirement?

Was this able to be evidenced by candidates?

How long will the position and states funding last?

What data has been collected and how, to see footfall levels and trends over the last few years?

Can those figures be published?

Have any recommendations on improvements to retail in Guernsey been made from data collected?

Are we getting value for money from the role?

Based on?

If it is seen as successful, will other industry sectors be offered the same?

FOI Response provided by the Committee *for* Economic Development

In late 2019 the Guernsey Retail Group was formed to represent the retail sector in Guernsey. The Group is incorporated as an LBG and is a registered Non Profit Organisation, the board is made up of 6 retail industry representatives from a mix of different retail types, size and location.

The Guernsey Retail Group has an aim to positively influence the issues and opportunities that the retail industry faces across the Island, representing retail businesses of all sizes, products groups and ownership type. The group aims to support, drive and be the voice of the local retail economy.

In late 2019 the Guernsey Retail Group submitted a funding proposal to the Committee for Economic Development for grant funding of £280,000 over three years which comprised of three main elements:

1. The funding of a new retail manager position
2. Funding for data collection and research
3. Funding for events and activities to promote the sector

The Committee for Economic Development considered the Guernsey Retail Group's proposal in early 2020 and, given the decline in the retail sector and the retail sector's significance as a major employer, agreed to provide the requested grant funding of £280,000 over 3 years.

A Service Level Agreement has been agreed between the Guernsey Retail Group and the States of Guernsey with Key Performance Indicators and the Committee receives progress updates from the Guernsey Retail Group every 6 months. The Guernsey Retail Group published an Action Plan for the Guernsey Retail sector in June 2021. [Click Link here](#)

A progress update on the Retail Action Plan was provided by the Guernsey Retail Group to the Committee in February 2022 and to wider stakeholders in March 2022.

The Committee for Economic Development played no role in the recruitment of the new Head of Retail Development beyond providing the funding for the role and all questions regarding the recruitment process should be directed to the Guernsey Retail Group.