REPLY BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE REVIEW BOARD- PANEL OF MEMBERS TO QUESTIONS ASKED PURSUANT TO RULE 6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE BY DEPUTY LOWE

Question 1

During the last States I submitted Rule 6 questions to the Chief Minister asking for details of the time and expenditure incurred spent out of the island representing the States during 2008, 2009, 2010 & 2011. I was extremely grateful for the comprehensive reply set out clearly on a spreadsheet. (sample page attached) My added request at that time was that annual or six monthly publication of trips be the norm. Deputy Trott, Chief Minister at the time responded 'in accordance with practices in other territories States Members and indeed the community should have the benefit of seeing details not just of trips undertaken by the Chief Minister, but all Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Chairmen and indeed Department and Committee Members who travel on States business'. I was assured in a further letter from Policy Council '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'.

Disappointingly travelling expenditure on States business hasn't been published by any of the above either six monthly or annually and as we are now nearly 3yrs into this administration the same Rule 6 questions posed to the previous Chief Minister (2008-2011) are now set out below for all political members of Review Boards- Panel Of Members under Rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure. For ease of reference would you list separately each individual members travelling expenditure please.

In respect of each month during the periods May 2012-December 2012 and January 2013- December 2013 & January 2014 – December 2014

a) How many flights paid for by the States did the Review Board- Panel of Members political members of take?

b) To which destinations did the political members of Review Board- Panel of Members travel on those flights?

c) What were the departure and return dates in respect of each trip from Guernsey?

Answer

None. The Panel of Members have not undertaken any travel as part of their roles during the period May 2012-December 2012 and January 2013- December 2013 & January 2014 – December 2014.

Question 2

Which hotels paid for by the States did the political members of Review Board- Panel of Members stay and for which nights during 2012 (from May 1 only), 2013 and 2014?

Answer

None. The Panel of Members have not stayed in any hotels as part of their roles during 2012 (from May 1 only), 2013 and 2014.

Question 3

What is 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 during 2012 (from May 1 only), 2013 and 2014

Answer

No costs have been incurred by the Panel of Members in that regard.

Question 4

What is the total staff cost during the period 2012 (from May 1 only), 2013 and 2014 of air fares, hotels and any other expenditure involved including any standard day allowances when accompanying, or joining the political members of Review Board- Panel of Members when travelling out of the island representing the States?

Answer

No costs have been incurred as no officer has undertaken any travel as part of their duties.

Question 5

Would you agree to publish travelling expenditure as a minimum annually and that in future such information will be made public by the end of January each year?

Answer

I would be very happy to comply should the States direct their committees and other bodies to issue such information annually or biannually, or at any other interval deemed appropriate.

Date of Receipt of the Question:	8 th January 2015
Date of Reply:	20 th January 2015