

**REPLY BY THE MINISTER OF  
THE SOCIAL SECURITY DEPARTMENT  
TO A QUESTION ASKED PURSUANT TO RULE 6 OF THE  
RULES OF PROCEDURE BY DEPUTY MARY LOWE**

**Question**

1. *In respect of each month during the periods May 2012 – December 2012 and January 2013 – December 2013 and January 2014 – December 2014*
  - (a) *How many flights paid for by the States did the political members of Social Security Department take?*
  - (b) *To which destinations did the political members of Social Security Department travel on those flights?*
  - (c) *What were the departure and return dates in respect of each trip from Guernsey?*
2. *Which hotels paid for by the States did the political members of Social Security Department stay and for which nights during 2012 (from May 1 only), 2013 and 2014?*
3. *What is the total cost of the air fares, hotels and 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?*
4. *What is the total staff cost during the periods 2012 (from 1 May 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 Social Security Department when travelling out of the island representing the States?*

**Answer**

The above requested information is set out in the appended tables.

**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**

While travelling expenditure data is held on our records, and may be of interest to some, its extraction and collation does take time, as evidenced by the cost of preparing this response. The Department is prepared to publish such reports on an annual basis, if this is the consensus. The Department does, however, question whether this information is of sufficient public interest to justify the use of staff time and public funds to extract and collate it.

**Date of Receipt of the Question:** 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015

**Date of Reply:** 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015

Cost (approx.)	£500
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