

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY R.J. RONDEL OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 10th MAY 2016**

Question

Would the Minister produce a table showing for the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 to date –

1. Departments within the General Hospital that use or have used locums, and
2. The number of locums that have been brought to the Island each year per department and the cost to each department within the General Hospital of those locums

Answer

Locum doctors are used by the hospital for a variety of reasons including:

- cover for doctors on leave, especially when the doctor on leave is a single-handed specialist
- cover when doctors are on extended sick leave or leave of absence
- cover for an established but vacant post and the workload cannot be managed in any other way.

Locums are used to cover all grades of doctors from foundation trainees to consultants.

The table below shows the number of locum doctor episodes (although the same doctor is often used for multiple visits) during 2014, 2015 and 2016 to date. This shows all doctors and then splits down to just consultant cover. This is shown by specialty.

Unfortunately the cost is not recorded in the ledger by specialty but by different business codes and does not directly correlate – therefore, a total spend figure is shown. Additionally, if a locum is secured for a longer period of time – for example, 6 months – they will be given a temporary contract and paid via payroll rather than invoice and it is not possible to disaggregate these in the timescale available.

Specialty	2014		2015		2016 (year to date)	
	Total Locums	Consultant Locums	Total Locums	Consultant Locums	Total Locums	Consultant Locums
Acute Medicine	24	1	16	0	0	0
Anaesthetics	12	1	7	0	0	0
Cardiology	1	1	0*	0	0	0
Dermatology	4	4	5	5	2	2
Diabetes	2	0	0	0	0	0
Emergency Medicine	29	0	6	1	1	0
Gastroenterology	9	7	8	8	2	2
General Surgery	8	3	4	2	1	0
Haematology	5	5	5	5	1	1
Histopathology	13	13	16	16	3***	3
Microbiology	3	3	2	2	0	0
Obs & Gynae	18	3	11	1	4	2

Oncology	6	5	14**	14	1	1
Ophthalmology	9	9	1	0	0	0
Oral Surgery	1	0	0	0	0	0
Paediatrics	5	2	8	2	3	1
Palliative care	1	1	0	0	0	0
Radiology	17	15	10	9	3****	3
Respiratory	6	1	0	0	0	0
Trauma & Ortho	5	0	5	0	2	1
Urology	3	3	8	8	1	1
Total Indicative £	1,511,200		1,014,964		116,974	

*Cardiology contract with Oxford provides consultant cover for Jersey consultant leave but is not captured in this data set

** Staff grade doctor left and this was upgraded to consultant level cover pending restructure and substantive appointment (interviews in June 2016)

*** Additional histopathologist appointed and starts August 2016

**** Additional radiologist appointed and starts September 2016