WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BY DEPUTY C.S. ALVES OF ST. HELIER CENTRAL QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 30th OCTOBER 2023 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2023

Question

"In relation to free period products, will the Minister clarify -

- (a) how the period products are apportioned to each location;
- (b) what percentage of each type of period product (tampons with applicators, tampons without applicators and period pads) is supplied at each location;
- (c) how the size / absorbency of each product and the number of each product to be supplied determined;
- (d) how the availability of supplies of each product is monitored at each location; and
- (e) how often the products are restocked?"

Answer

(a) Products differ according to venues, the space available, and the usage. As part of the pilot there are now 23 venues (such as sports centres, libraries, charities, and food banks) and 20 public toilets with a range of products available. The full list of venues is available on gov.je here. Products are supplied in both female and male toilets to enable men to take products for their partners, children or those in their care, as well as for transgender and non binary individuals.

All venues other than public toilets, are supplied with the full range of products:

- Super soft pads
- Ultra thin night pads
- Normal liners
- Non Applicator tampons regular
- Non Applicator tampons super
- Applicator tampons regular
- Applicator tampons super
- Organic normal pads
- Organic non applicator regular
- Organic applicator super

Public toilets hold non applicator tampons and pads due to the smaller size of dispensers/venue.

- (b) All venues (other than public toilets) are supplied with a full range as listed above and equal percentage split of products when they launch. Products are then monitored for usage by venues directly and re-stocked according to demand, so the percentage then varies according to the venue. Public toilets hold 50% non applicator tampons and 50% pads.
- (c) As part of the pilot phase of this project, the range of products was initially chosen by the project team with advice from suppliers on likely usage. This has been adapted during the pilot to include a wider range, to include more sustainable products, based on customer feedback. All venues (other than public toilets) start with a supply of each of the product types at launch, and the venue reorders supplies based on demand which is user led. Public toilets currently only hold non applicator tampons and pads, although as part of the pilot, this is under review.

- (d) Availability of products are monitored and restocked by staff in relevant venues and by cleaning contractors in public toilets. The pilot continues to monitor user volumes on an on-going basis and is working to increase the size of containers where usage is highest.
- (e) Products in venues (other than public toilets) are restocked on an ongoing basis when required, as monitored by staff who are based in the venue all day. These venues hold a stock they refill their product boxes from, and re-order as and when this stock running low. Public toilet dispensers are restocked either once or twice a day (the cleaning frequency changes depending on location).