

3.1 Deputy G.P. Southern:

What progress has been made in connection with the establishment of a Population Office as outlined in P25 of 2005 “Migration Monitoring and Regulation”? In the light of this, when will a proposition be lodged for consideration by the States to provide for employers to control their workforce under the proposed system of entitled, licensed and registered only categories?

Senator F.H. Walker (The Chief Minister):

The Population Office has now been established and it incorporates a Regulation of Undertakings Office and the housing law section of the Housing Department. In addition, a head of the Population Office has recently been appointed and he is already working with the office on the development of a 2006 business plan. He will take up his post full-time in mid-March and it is expected that the business plan will be published shortly thereafter. A considerable amount of work remains to be done including drafting legislative changes, policy implementation and the introduction of new procedures. The business plan will include a detailed timetable of activity including the presentation of a report and proposition to the States for their consideration.