

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BY DEPUTY
A.E. JEUNE OF ST. BRELADE
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 2009**

Question

“Would the Minister –

- advise the Assembly of the total number of nurses on the “Jersey register”, and of these
- the number who are employed by the Health and Social Services Department (HSS);
- of the number employed by HSS, identify the proportion that have full time contracts, part-time contracts, or are employed as ‘bank’ nurses, breaking down each category into those who are locally resident (5 years’ residency), those who are essentially employed (J category) and those with less than 5 years residency?

Is the Minister aware of the number of Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) registered nurses in the Island who are not on the local register of nurses and who might be available to assist in the event of any chronic shortage due to the anticipated flu pandemic or other emergency situation? And if not, does the Minister have any plans to collate this information in the event of a chronic staff shortage, for example the anticipated flu pandemic or emergency situation?”

Answer

The total number of nurses on the “Jersey register” as of the end of August 2009 is

- 1071 nurses
- 62 midwives
- 26 specialist community public health nurses

1. The number of registered nurses currently in post /employed by Health and Social Services Department is 569 .(This excludes vacancies, or posts recruited to where staff have not yet arrived)
The budgeted establishment is 660 full time equivalent, which includes 38 midwives.
2. All ‘J’ category registered nurses and midwives are working full time contracts. There are approximately 220 nurses in this category and these nurses have 5 years and under residency. They comprise 37.4% of the nursing and midwifery workforce.
 - 2 (i) 369 registered nurses have lived and worked in Jersey for 5 years and more and this comprises 62.6% of the workforce.
 - 2 (ii) The department employs 30 registered nurses on zero hours contracts and together they provide the core of the nursing ‘bank’. Of these 6 are available to work fulltime hours the other 24 are only available to work part time.

In addition to the above, 164 registered nurses who already have substantive contracts with HSSD, undertake bank shifts in addition to their normal working hours. The Minister is unable to say how many registered nurses are living in Jersey, but not on the local register.

The Minister thanks Deputy Jeune for her suggestion regarding an Island wide, nursing, response to an emergency situation. In that event islanders may be called upon to provide assistance, following appropriate media requests, and this could include nurses on the NMC register. Any assistance subsequently provided, however, will need to

be undertaken within appropriate legal frameworks.

It is a legal requirement, in seeking to maintain national NMC registration, for nurses and midwives to complete 150 hours of clinical practice per year or 350 hours over a 3 year period. There is also a requirement to produce evidence of annual continuing professional development which may preclude many individuals from maintaining professional registration.

Retired nurses without current NMC and local registration would only be legally entitled to work in a non registered nurse or midwifery capacity.