

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY
BY DEPUTY P.V.F. LE CLAIRE OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 20th APRIL 2010**

Question

“To help and assist the Comprehensive Spending Review, would the Minister provide an organisation chart of his department identifying every post, the post holder’s duties and responsibilities, the salary grade and whether the post is currently filled or vacant and, if possible, if any of these post holders are suspended?”

Answer

The Deputy’s request for the detailed information listed above has not only been directed to the Social Security Minister but also to the Chief Minister and the Ministers for Treasury and Resources, Planning and Environment and Health and Social Services. Taken together these departments employ some 2960 staff out of a total of 6000. The Deputy is asking for information to be provided on each one of these posts. That would take a massive amount of time to collate and present in a meaningful format.

Far from attempting “to help and assist the Comprehensive Spending Review”, answering such questions would involve additional, time-consuming and unnecessary work which would take attention away from the work of reviewing efficiency and the effect of potential cuts or transfers of functions.

Unfortunately the Deputy did not attend the recent CSR workshop where he would have had the opportunity to understand the true nature of the CSR process and the Council of Ministers’ determined objective to reduce States expenditure over the coming years.

The Social Security Department Business Plan for 2010 provides full information on States tax- funded posts. In addition, a further 91 posts are employed to administer the collection of Social Security contributions, the processing and payment of contributory benefits and pensions and the administration of the Social Security and Health Insurance Funds. The organisation chart is shown at the end of this answer.

With regard to the number of post-holders suspended, I refer the Deputy to the detailed answer the Chief Minister gave earlier this year to Question 5174 asked by the Deputy of St Martin.

I am satisfied that the Comprehensive Spending Review has all of the necessary information on which to undertake an informed analysis and identify opportunities to cut spending and make efficiencies. I also believe that if the Deputy reads and analyses the Business Plans he will also have sufficient information on which to base his judgements.

Department organisation chart

