

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2013**

Question

Will the Chief Minister outline the policy on population growth that underpins the Council of Ministers' health and economic growth policies and strategies?

Will he further set out the specific population figures the Council of Ministers is working on for 2015, 2020, 2025, 2030, 2035, 2040, 2045 and 2050?

Answer

The 2009 Strategic Plan outlined a net migration target of +325 people per year on average. The 2012 Strategic Plan committed to a review of population policy, which will be brought forward as an "Interim Population Policy" before the end of the present term of the Council of Ministers.

In the meantime, the planning assumption for net immigration has remained +325.

This underlies the Economic Growth and Diversification Strategy and Health Strategy, as well as other policies such as the Island Plan.

It should be noted that planning future services does not merely depend on estimates of population. For instance, plans for future health services are affected by the ageing population and changing patterns of health care. For all of the levels of immigration calculated in the Statistics Unit Population Projection Report, the over 65s population of Jersey remains materially the same.

The Statistics Unit's [Population Projection Report 2013](#) is publicly available and shows population forecasts on an annual net immigration assumption of +350 people on page 9.