

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY
BY THE DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 2ND MAY 2017**

Question

Given the data comparison provided in answer to Written Question 184 between Table 7 of 'Social Security Department: Income Support 2011' (R.126/2012) and the figures given in Table 31 of 'Social Security Department: Minister's Report 2015' (R.104/2016), will the Minister provide a breakdown of the sources of income (such as earnings, maintenance, Long-Term Incapacity Allowance) included as "average other income" for adults with children in these tables?

Will the Minister further advise, in relation to the Income Support claims from families with children shown in Table 33 of R.104/2016, in how many of those claims did the claimants involved have earnings from full-time, part-time and zero-hour jobs; and will she indicate whether the proportion of claimants with zero-hour jobs in this group differs from that proportion for the workforce as a whole?

Answer

For the benefit of Members, extracts from the two reports referenced in the first question are provided below.

Table 7 – R.126/2012

Table 7 indicates the average weekly income received from Income Support and from other sources for each of the household types at the end of 2011.

Household Type	Income Support Benefit £	Other Income £	Total Household Income £
65+	158	202	360
Adult/s without Children	166	130	296
Adults with Child/ren	288	385	673
Single Adult with Child/ren	333	177	510
All Claims	208	193	401

Table 31 – R.106/2016

Table 31 indicates the average weekly income received from Income Support and from other sources for each of the household types at the end of 2015, as well as the percentages of the Income Support households that are wholly reliant on Income Support.

Household Type	Average Income Support Benefit £	Average Other Income £	Average Total Income £	Percentage of Households wholly reliant on Income Support
65+	£176	£223	£399	1%
Adult/s without children	£187	£161	£348	25%
Adults with child/ren	£279	£467	£746	2%
Single adult with child/ren	£353	£232	£585	14%
Total	£227	£238	£465	13%

Table 11: Total average (mean) weekly income based on claims as at 31 December 2015

Q.1: will the Minister provide a breakdown of the sources of income (such as earnings, maintenance, Long-Term Incapacity Allowance) included as "average other income" for adults with children in these tables?

The analysis of "average other income" in the tables above is shown in the table below for adults with children.

Type of income	2011	2015
Average earnings	£ 335	£425
Average maintenance income	£ 11	£7
Average pension income	£ 2	£1
Average other income, including contributory benefits*	£ 37	£34
Total 'average other income'	£385	£467

* Income in this row includes rental income, insurance payments, benefits from other countries and charitable income, as well as Social Security contributory benefits.

Income from savings and investments (bank interest etc.) is not included in this table and this type of income is not included in the Income Support calculation. Charitable income is recorded but is then wholly disregarded from the Income Support calculation.

Q.2: Will the Minister further advise, in relation to the Income Support claims from families with children shown in Table 33 of R.104/2016, in how many of those claims did the claimants involved have earnings from full-time, part-time and zero-hour jobs; and will she indicate whether the proportion of claimants with zero-hour jobs in this group differs from that proportion for the workforce as a whole?

Table 33 shows the distribution of adults with earnings amongst all claims consisting entirely of working age adults as at 31/12/2015.

Working Age Household Type	No. of Claims with no Adult with Earnings	No. of Claims with at least one Adult with Earnings	Total No. of Claims	% of Households with no Adult with Earned Income
Adult/s without children	1,615	772	2,387	68%
Adults with child/ren	107	842	949	11%
Single adult with child/ren	450	632	1,082	42%

Table 33: Working age adults with and without earnings as at 31 December 2015

Detailed information on the type of employment contract held by individual claimants is only recorded at the level of the individual record. It is not possible to use Income Support data to make a comparison between the proportion of Income Support claimants with a zero-hour job and the proportion for the workforce as a whole.