

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
BY DEPUTY R.J. WARD OF ST. HELIER  
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 14th JUNE 2021  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 21st JUNE 2021**

**Question**

Will the Minister state how many employees in the Health and Community Services Department are currently suffering from 'Long Covid' and what plans for the workforce, if any, are in place to address this situation?

**Answer**

Up to now, fewer than five HCS employees have been diagnosed with Long Covid, and most of these colleagues are now back at work. If employees are off work with Long Covid, they receive regular contact from their line manager. The absence is not counted towards their sickness absence management total. On return to work, they receive additional time in their phased return to work to ensure they are fit and able to carry out their work activities.

In terms of clinical care for the affected employees, as with other illnesses, this is managed through primary care with referral to secondary and tertiary care as needed. There is also the continuation of the well-being offer, which all HCS employees can access if assessment demonstrates this will benefit the individual.

More broadly, work continues across Government departments to assess the impact of Long Covid generally on Islanders and Public Health is working with stakeholders to ensure that those with the condition are identified and that any future developments in Long Covid care are based on a clear picture of need.