3.13 Deputy M.B. Andrews of the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding locum staff within the Health and Community Services department (OQ.105/2024)

Will the Minister state the number of locum staff employed within Health and Community Services since 1st January 2024 and the total amount spent on locum staff since that date?

Deputy T. Binet of St. Saviour (The Minister for Health and Social Services):

Agency staffing numbers have ranged between 160 and 171 between January and May of this year. At the end of May there were 170 agency healthcare staff workers and 33 were doctors, 137 were nurses and allied health professionals. Expenditure on agency staffing within Health and Community Services from January to May amount to £10.7 million. The overall staffing variance against budget to the end of May is approximately £2.2 million, so £8.5 million of the agency expenditure, that is 79 per cent of the agency cost, equates to the cost that would have been incurred had the staff been directly employed.