## Deputy Chief Minister | Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture



19-21 Broad Street | St Helier Jersey | JE2 4WE

By email

19<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Chair,

## Work Permit Holder Welfare Review Panel

Thank you for your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> June and for the opportunity to feed into this important review. In your letter you provide a number of questions in relation to your ongoing review of the welfare of work permit holders living and working in Jersey. I have set out below answers to each of these in turn:

1. Does the Department quantify the value added to Jersey's economy by work permit holders? a. If so, what data is used to generate this information?

The Department does not quantify the value added to Jersey's economy by work permit holders. GVA data for the economy as a whole is collected by Statistics Jersey but calculations are not available for workers that have entitled status separately from registered workers.

2. What consideration, if any, has the Department given to the model used by Locate Jersey (to welcome newcomers, provide useful information about the Island and answer questions), in relation to work permit holders?

The creation of information packs for newcomers was recommended by the Island Identity project and is now being progressed in conjunction with the International Cultural Centre.

3. What role, if any, has the Department had in the development of the WPP and the recent changes to the WPP made in April 2023?

The Labour shortage taskforce is composed of key stakeholders across government looking at a range of issues, one of which is the WPP. Findings from the taskforce and decisions made were presented to MHA, MER, and MEDTSC as well as to the Population and skills ministerial group which Economic Development sits on.

4. Has the Department sought direct feedback about how the WPP affects the welfare of work permit holders living and working in Jersey on a short-term basis?

The Department for Justice and Home Affairs regularly engages with representative organisations and groups to monitor the effectiveness of the WPP and assess the welfare and experience of work permit holders.

5. What direct engagement, if any, has the Department had with work permit holders to determine the success of the WPP in ensuring that Jersey is a good place to work on a short-term basis?

Please see above answer.

6. What work has been completed by the Department to develop an understanding of the cultural and legal differences between Jersey and the countries from which work permit holders are travelling?

No work has been done directly by the Economy Department in this area but it is anticipated that the International Cultural Centre Steering Group will consider this as part of their ongoing programme of work.

7. The Panel is aware of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Jersey and Antigua and Barbuda. What other treaties and/or MoU's have been developed between Jersey and the countries from which Work Permit Holders are travelling?

To date, the Jersey and Antigua and Barbuda MOU remains the only such agreement.

I hope the above provides clarity to the areas you have raised.

Yours sincerely,

the

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