3 Senator Z.A. Cameron of the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding the number of non-residents employed by or given contracts by Health and Social Services: [9532]

How many non-residents have been employed or been given contracts by Health and Social Services in the last 24 months?

Senator A.K.F. Green (The Minister for Health and Social Services):

There is no category of non-resident in the States reporting system, so I am presuming that what is being sought are those employed in the licence category, similar to the old (j) cat definition. On that basis, the answer is that H.S.S.D. has employed 139 people in the last 24 months.

3.3.1 Senator Z.A. Cameron:

Is the Minister aware that some well-qualified local candidates have not even been shortlisted for some of these positions?

Senator A.K.F. Green:

The Minister is not aware. That is an operational matter. What I will say is that when staff are appointed they are appointed to a criteria and according to the skills that they are able to offer to the job.

3.3.2 Senator Z.A. Cameron:

Would the Minister agree that local residents might have a greater awareness of our unique history and culture and tend to have a wider network of supportive relationships within our community? Is there a danger that by employing non-residents with few local ties and knowledge it is easier to manipulate and remove contracts should they challenge or question management policy practice or culture?

Senator A.K.F. Green:

I find it really difficult to answer this question but what I will say is if I am having a surgeon undertake an operation on me, I want the most competent, best-qualified, experienced person, not someone who was born only in Jersey?