WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 12TH JULY 2016

Question

Will the Chief Minister advise members how many dependents accompanied the 1,500 people recorded in the 2015 population report as net inward migrants and give a breakdown of their ages, gender and nationality? If this information is not available will the Chief Minister explain why it is not available?

Answer

The independent Statistics Unit produces an annual estimate of the Island's resident population using a range of data sources, including the labour market survey (constituting a census of employed people), school roll information, as well information from other sources such as Health and Social Services. The methodology includes assumptions based on the behaviour of inward migrants (length of stay, household structure) as recorded at the time of the 2011 Census.

The estimate for net migration in 2015 was +1,500 people into the Island, comprising 1,100 workers, 300 non-economically active dependent adults, and 100 school age and pre-school age children.

The Statistics Unit's current methodology, developed over the last 15 years and based on robust administrative data sources, derives statistical estimates only; this methodology cannot produce a more detailed breakdown by age, gender or nationality.

Given appropriate resources over the next few years, the Statistics Unit aims to develop an e-Census in order to produce a more detailed breakdown of the population. Such an e-Census will, in principle, be derived from a wider range of administrative sources, including data from the Social Security Department, Population Office and Income Tax Department.