

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 6th DECEMBER 2011**

Question

Would the Minister advise the Assembly –

- (a) the number of specialisms of the consultants employed on a full time, part time, or on an ad hoc basis over the last three years indicating as necessary when any breaks in continuous service or specialisms occurred or, in the case of part time or ad hoc consultants, the periods they were employed;
- (b) the number of operations carried out by these consultants during the last three years detailing which were –
- (i) routine (public)
 - (ii) emergency (public)
 - (iii) private
- (c) the mortality rates for these operations?

Answer

- a) HSSD employed 57.9 Consultants in 2009, 56.6 in 2010 and 58.9 in 2011. In addition HSSD also employs 25 visiting Consultants a year from the UK. These Consultants are specialists in their chosen field and many have been providing a service to Jersey for several years. The number of visits provided by these consultants vary depending on patient demand. The breakdown for 58.9 in 2011 across the specialities are as follows:-

Medicine	Surgery	Radiology	Pathology	Psychiatry/ Mental Health	Dental	Public Health
15.7	22.6	5.6	4	7	3	1

No HSSD Consultants have had a break in continuous employment having remained as employees and undertaken continuous professional development in accordance with their speciality. Three full time consultants have however reduced their contractual hours to part-time during 2011.

- b) The number of operations carried out by these consultants over the past 3 years are:

	Public elective patients	Public emergency patients	Total public patients	Private elective patients	Private emergency patients	Total private Patients	Total operations
2009			8617			2717	11344
2010	7683	1441	9124	2484	94	2578	11702
2011	6787	916	7703	2316	60	2376	10079 (Jan-Nov)
Total Number of operations over the 3 year period to November 2011							33115

c) The mortality rates¹ for these operations are:

	Total operations	% mortality rate
2009	11334	0.04% (4 patients)
2010	11702	0.05% (6 patients)
2011	10079	0.03% (3 patients)

These mortality rates include operations performed on seriously ill patients who were at extreme high risk of dying, for example patients involved in road traffic accidents. HSSD follows UK best practice to minimise risk to patients. Safety checks and clear strategies are in place to constantly monitor trends and incidents.

¹ Mortality is defined as a death within 24 hours of surgery.