

2019.03.12

16 Deputy K.F. Morel of the Assistant Chief Minister regarding the licences issued in respect of non-qualified staff: [OQ.69/2019]

How many licences to work for non-qualified staff were removed from the wholesale and retail sector in 2018 and which business sector had the most such licences removed last year?

Connétable C.H. Taylor of St. John (Assistant Chief Minister):

114 licences for non-qualified staff were removed from the wholesale and retail sector in 2018. The hospitality business sector - hotels, restaurants and bars - had the most licences removed. This question is very similar to that of question one in the written questions and, on it, it has a reference to a website, in which quarterly updates are given and will probably answer all the questions the Deputy may have, including any supplementaries.

6.16.1 Deputy K.F. Morel:

Thank you, Assistant Chief Minister. Could you let me know what criteria are used for deciding whether to remove licences from the retail sector?

The Connétable of St. John:

We do not remove a valid licence; it is after 5 years, when the licence itself has expired, it is for the business to reapply for the licence to be renewed and, in those circumstances, it is looked at by a delegation of officers.

6.16.2 Deputy K.F. Morel:

Given the enormous challenges faced by the wholesale and retail sector, as described in the Scrutiny report - the retail review that was undertaken by the Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel - do you think it is time to give the sector a break and cease the removal of licences that, perhaps, are not in use and therefore remove the need for them to reapply, so that they can maintain that flexibility within their business?

The Connétable of St. John:

The population on the Island has grown some 1,200 to 1,500 in numbers over the last few years, being some 4 or 5 times the projected target figure and so we are not singling out the retail above, or below, any other industry; we are trying to take an even hand right across all the industries.