

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HOUSING  
BY DEPUTY J.G. REED OF ST OUEN**

**ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 19th JUNE 2007**

**Question**

Would the Minister advise the Assembly what the total number of public sector staff vacancies were for the six month periods to 30th June 2005, 31st December 2005, 30th June 2006, 31st December 2006 and 30th May 2007 within his Department?

Of the staff posts transferred to and from the Department during the above periods, how many were actually vacant at the time of transfer?

What funds were saved by Departments from unfilled posts in each period?

How many of the existing vacancies are currently budgeted for and how many vacancies have remained unfilled for a period of 12 months or more?

**Answer**

The number of vacancies in the Housing Department for the requested periods were as follows:

<i><b>Housing Department</b></i>	<i><b>Vacancies</b></i>	
	<b>Fte</b>	<b>Headcount</b>
<b>Date</b>		
30th June 2005	1.49	2
31st December 2005	2.27	6
30th June 2006	3.19	3
31st December 2006	6.8	8
30th May 2007	3.2	4

The increase in vacancy levels from June 2006 to December 2006 was due to a decision not to fill two posts due to the impending transfer of the Subsidies team to the Social Security Department.

15 posts were transferred to the Chief Ministers Department in 2006, of these 2 posts were vacant.

Whilst posts have been reported as unfilled, some of the work has continued to be performed in order to maintain services and this cover has been achieved through a number of ways, including temporary staff and acting up arrangements. Therefore it is not possible to give an accurate figure of the savings made.

There are presently 3 vacancies within the Department that are budgeted for. One of these has been vacant for 5 months, one has been vacant for 3 months and the other has become vacant this month. All are being actively recruited and are expected to be filled within the next 2 months.