WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER BY DEPUTY R.G. LE HERISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2013

Question

Would the Chief Minister state the number of employment licences still in use, by economic sector, and clarify whether such licences can be withdrawn before their expiry date and, if not, can he identify what steps he is proposing to prevent such licences exacerbating the unemployment situation?

Answer

As at end December, 2012 (showing actual permanent "registered" staff employed by sector and permissions for registered staff in each sector):

Registered Staff - December 2012 Analysis			
		Actual Staff	Permissions
Agriculture and Fishing		300	267
Manufacturing		40	71
Electricity, Gas and Water		20	41
Construction and Quarrying		190	397
Wholesale and Retail Trades		720	1,190
Hotels, Restaurants & Bars		1,870	2,151
Transport, Storage & Communication		130	116
Financial and Legal Activities		690	1,393
Computer and related activities		40	43
Miscellaneous Business Activities		490	591
Education, Health and Other Services		410	628
		4,900	6,888

The number of licences has reduced from just over 9,000 at the beginning of 2010.

Alongside this, requests for over 1,000 additional "registered" staff have been refused in the last 3½ years, with employers being directed to the "back to work" team instead.

Permissions for "registered" staff under the new Control of Housing and Work (Jersey) Law, 2012, can be withdrawn at any time, so long as a person is not employed against that permission, i.e. permission cannot be withdrawn if the effect is to make someone lose their employment.

In addition, conditions can be applied such that any new recruit be an "entitled" or "entitled for work" person.

The "Interim Population Policy" currently under development will, among other things, outline in detail practical steps to promote the employment of "entitled" and "entitled for work" staff using the new Law. The "Interim Population Policy" is expected to be lodged in December.