WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 13th JULY 2009

Question

Will the Minister inform members whether he has data to show an increase in the rate of those finding work through his department's services whilst on benefit after the first 18 months of Income Support, and if not, when will he be in a position to inform members of the success or otherwise of Income Support as a genuine 'in work' benefit?

Answer

Income Support is a single benefit designed to provide consistent financial support to local families whether or not they have employment. As at 30th June 2009, there were 2,881 adults aged 18 to 64 in employment and receiving income support.

As has been explained in a number of written questions answered over the last few months, my Department is actively working with the Statistics Unit to introduce improved reporting on individuals actively seeking work, which will include identifying those who find work through the department's services whilst on benefit.