

Simon Spottiswoode

From: Mark Richardson (H&SS)
Sent: 27 June 2019 16:13
To: Simon Spottiswoode
Subject: RE: CSSP Letter to Minister for Health & Social Services re Migration Review

Hi Simon

Please find below a response from the Minister for Health and Social Services to Deputy Perchard's letter.

Thanks

Kind regards

Mark

Dear Deputy Perchard

Population & Migration Policy Review

Thank you for your letter of 20th June.

As Minister I have not had any interaction with the Board as yet and nor, to the best of my knowledge, have officers from the Department. My understanding is that the Board is only gathering evidence at this stage.

However, we know from work carried out for the outline business case for the (now withdrawn) Future Hospital Project that an increase in population invariably results in demand growth within the health and social care system and it is often felt most immediately within the acute Hospital.

The number of Islanders aged over 65 and, more prominently, those aged over 85 being on average the heaviest users of Island healthcare, is set to grow more quickly than other age groups. (paras 3.102/104 in the OBC).

The OBC noted (para 3.55) that: 'The island context presents unique challenges for the HSSD in terms of its ability to attract and retain sufficient numbers of skilled staff. The lack of availability of people with the appropriate skills at registered and professional levels within the indigenous population leads to a heavy reliance on off-Island recruitment from the UK and other locations.' Even at support worker level, the department experiences high levels of competition from other sectors, and other health and social care employees on the Island. (para 3.57)

To give an indication of the possible consequences of increases in demand in healthcare, it is useful to cite the OBC that noted that: 'Between 2016 and 2026 some 30 new doctors, 50 new nurses, midwives, and 33 additional allied health professionals will be required to provide the increase in services required during the transition and in the first few years of the new hospital being fully functional. This forecast includes additional staff required to address the existing waiting list. In total an additional 112.2 FTE staff will be needed to meet the forecast demand.' (para 6.87). The report goes on to say that: 'The analysis shows that as demand increases beyond 2026 further increases in FTE numbers will be required; at 2036, the total increase on 2016 will be some 266 staff. A further 167 FTE will be required by 2046.' (para 6.88).

Of course we are looking at the future hospital again and we must be cautious about placing reliance on the above figures as we know the situation is being reviewed as part of the 'Our Hospital' project. However, they give an idea of the pressures we are likely to face in terms of the requirement to import more skilled workers into our medical and care sectors, including physical and mental health and social care settings. The inability to attract suitably

qualified and experienced clinical/medical experts required to deliver the anticipated service needs is a key risk , which population policy, licenses and key worker housing will need to address.

However, we are already seeking to do what we can locally. The Island trains an annual cohort of nurses and midwives and we have recently introduced measures making it more convenient and affordable for candidates to train as mental health nurses in the Island. We have also established a training course for social workers which will begin in the Autumn. In HCS we are always looking for additional ways of improving training opportunities for young people.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Richard

Deputy Richard Renouf
Minister for Health and Social Services

From: Simon Spottiswoode
Sent: 21 June 2019 12:55
To: Mark Richardson (H&SS) <M.Richardson2@health.gov.je>
Cc: Alison Macfarlane <A.Macfarlane@health.gov.je>
Subject: CSSP Letter to Minister for Health & Social Services re Migration Review

Dear Mark,

Please find attached a letter from the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel inviting submissions from Ministers to its review of the work of the Migration Policy Development Board. We are asking for submissions by Monday 1st July.


In addition to a written submission, the Panel would like to arrange a public hearing with a group of ministers to explore some of the implications for their policy remits in more detail. Please could you let me know whether your minister would be available to attend a public hearing on Friday 28th June (pm) or Monday 1st July (pm)? We anticipate that this would be a joint hearing, possibly alongside the Education Minister and Environment Minister.

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards
Simon

Simon Spottiswoode
Scrutiny Officer

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