

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY M.B. ANDREWS OF ST HELIER NORTH
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2025
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 17th FEBRUARY 2025**

Question

“In relation to Cabinet Office staff, will the Chief Minister advise –

- (a) the number, if any, recruited in the last 12 months;
- (b) the number, if any, dismissed in the last 12 months; and
- (c) the total number currently employed?”

Answer

The Council of Ministers has set a clear direction that the growth in the public sector headcount should be curbed and the Cabinet Office, in particular, should be right-sized.

When reviewing the data below, it should be noted that a recruitment freeze was introduced from July 2024 and this will have had an effect in the later months of the requested timeframe. The recruitment freeze is one lever being used to deliver the required savings of the Cabinet Office, specifically £1.681 million savings during 2025 and a further £1.335 million savings during 2026.

- a) the number, if any, recruited in the last 12 months (headcount):

Department	New starters
Cabinet Office	14

All recruitment for these posts was under way prior to the recruitment freeze commenced.

- b) the number, if any, dismissed in the last 12 months (headcount):

Department	Compulsory redundancy	Voluntary redundancy	Voluntary move	Retirement	Total
Cabinet Office	4	5	7	1	17

There have also been a further 18 voluntary leavers during this period plus 14 staff transferred into other departments. This brings the total number of leavers from the Cabinet Office to 49.

- c) the total number currently employed (Full time Equivalent - FTE)

Department	FTE on 1 January 2024	FTE on 1 January 2025
Cabinet Office	215.7	166.8

These figures show a direct like-for-like comparison. They do not include the FTE for Digital Services and People Services, which were removed from the Cabinet Office Head of Expenditure from 1st January 2025. This change was approved by the States Assembly in November 2024 through the Budget 2025-2028 process. In addition, the Public Health directorate and strategic health policy team have transferred to the Health Care Jersey department from 1st January 2025. Therefore these teams have also been excluded from the headcount data for the purposes of year on year comparison.