WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND HOUSING BY DEPUTY K.G. PAMPLIN OF ST. SAVIOUR ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 13th JULY 2020

Question

Further to the response to Oral Question 155/2020, will the Minister state how many Islanders have been reported as homeless or living in emergency accommodation since the start of 'lockdown'?

Answer

Since an emergency accommodation service was established on 23rd March 2020 in response to Covid-19, more than 200 persons have approached or been referred to the service.

The breakdown of those cases as of 8th July is as follows:

Open cases – client living in temporary accommodation	55
Closed cases – advice only or client accessed private accommodation	103
Open cases – client awaiting social housing allocation	16
Closed cases – client made social housing allocation	29
Total number of cases referred to emergency accommodation service	203

These figures do not include persons who have approached other homeless services, including the Shelter Trust and Women's Refuge.

The highest number of persons recorded living in temporary accommodation such as hotel and guest house accommodation was 74 no. on 27th May. The number has decreased as the island has moved to Level 3 and 2 of the Safe Exit Framework and people have been able to move properties.

Work is underway to make sure that persons living in temporary accommodation have access to permanent accommodation and support either in social housing, private rented accommodation or with organisations such as the Shelter Trust.