QUESTION TO BE ASKED OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE ON TUESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2003, BY SENATOR E.P. VIBERT

Question

Would the President confirm that a senior public servant, on a three year contract has been told in writing that his contract would not be renewed as the Department concerned 'wishes to lower the age profile of the Department'? If this is a fact, would the President explain to members how this fits in with human rights legislation regarding age discrimination and how it fits in with the unfair dismissal legislation passed by the States only a month ago, which specifically outlaws dismissal on the grounds of age?

Answer

While I would not normally comment on an individual case, I will confirm that the decision taken in the case referred to was not influenced by the age of the person concerned, but rather was concerned with matters of manpower and succession planning.