

4.1 Deputy I.J. Gorst of the Chief Minister regarding the employment of people with disabilities by the States Employment Board during 2008:

Thank you. Given that the Council of Ministers agreed to double the number of people with disabilities employed by the States Employment Board during 2008, can the Chief Minister confirm how many additional people, if any, have been employed?

Senator F.H. Walker (The Chief Minister):

The States Employment Board set a target for 2008 to increase by 13 the number of individuals with a disability employed by the States of Jersey. We can confirm that 20 individuals with disabilities have taken up employment with the States of Jersey during 2008 and this is in addition to those who are employed on special schemes in non-core posts. In addition there are nearly 100 individuals who are undertaking therapeutic work with the States of Jersey through job scope. This therapeutic work is not regarded as employment as individuals do not have a contract of employment and they receive a therapeutic expense rate, not a wage. However, they are engaged in meaningful work and in many cases will develop the skills and confidence to move into paid employment in the future.

4.1.1 Deputy I.J. Gorst:

Thank you. Can the Chief Minister confirm that those 20 newly employed individuals with disabilities are employed by a contract via the States Employment Board as would every other employee of the States be?

Senator F.H. Walker:

I cannot answer that question in detail but I believe that to be the case, but I can certainly confirm that to the Deputy later in the day.