From: Judith Martin

**Sent:** 15 October 2015 16:54 **To:** Susie Pinel < S.Pinel@gov.je >

Cc: [officer]

Subject: FW: Breach 3 sanctions

Dear Susie

Just checking back questions did the department reply to the below if not please can you ask that they do. If they have please can it be resent as I cannot find the reply

Kind regards

judy

## 4.2.3 Deputy J.A. Martin:

The Minister said "it appears". The figure of 106 to have that total household income taken away is quite worrying. Could she break that down later for the Assembly and let us know how many of these are families with children and have 6 weeks no money and no rent paid?

[10:00]

Deputy S.J. Pinel:

Yes, of course I can fund the Deputy with some more figures. There is always the ability to appeal and in the whole year and quarter of this being in effect, there have been 7 appeals to the tribunal and all of these appeals have been from only 2 people.

**From:** [officer]

**Sent:** 20 October 2015 16:29 **To:** Judith Martin; Susie Pinel **Subject:** RE: Breach 3 sanctions

**Dear Deputy Martin** 

I will need to ask for some reports to be run in order to get an exact figure from you. It also isn't clear to me from your email which sitting that extract comes from, so I am unaware of the precise context of the discussion.

It would be useful if you could supply a date of the sitting, but perhaps you could confirm that you are asking about households with claims closed due to a third breach of a warning for failing to be actively seeking work (in plain English, jobseeking sanctions). Is it correct that you would like to know how many of those contain children?

Whilst I obtain those figures, I should also say that we have strict procedures in place for safeguarding children. Where a claim is at risk of closing due to a failed jobseeker, and that household contains children, we will always review the claim for safeguarding issues. This could potentially involve referral to another service, and it is also possible to continue paying towards rent through a Ministerial decision.

## Kind regards

## [officer and job title]

**Social Security | States of Jersey** 

Philip Le Feuvre House |PO Box 55 | La Motte Street| St Helier | Jersey | JE4 8PE

Tel: +44(0)1534 [direct dial] | E: mail to: [officer] www.gov.je/socialsecurity

From: Judith Martin

Sent: 21 October 2015 12:17

To: [officer]>; Susie Pinel <S.Pinel@gov.je>

Subject: RE: Breach 3 sanctions

I will look back at Hansard re which sitting and yes it is really the sanctions put on families with children.

Kind regards

Judy

**From:** [officer]

**Sent:** 21 October 2015 12:43 **To:** Judith Martin; Susie Pinel **Subject:** RE: Breach 3 sanctions

**Dear Deputy Martin** 

I've established that your query relates to the sitting of 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015, a supplementary question to Oral Question 8623.

Thanks for clarifying the question, I am just determining now whether it is possible to extract that data.

Kind regards

[officer and job title]
Social Security | States of Jersey
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Tel: +44(0)1534 [Direct dial] | E: mail to: [officer]

From: Judith Martin

Sent: 21 October 2015 14:56

**To:** [officer]; Susie Pinel < <u>S.Pinel@gov.je</u>>

**Subject:** RE: Breach 3 sanctions

**Thanks** 

Judy

**From:** [officer]

**Sent:** 30 October 2015 13:26 **To:** Judith Martin; Susie Pinel **Subject:** RE: Breach 3 sanctions

Dear Deputy Martin

I've asked our data analysts to look into this, and I'm afraid it isn't possible to provide a specific answer about how many of the closed claims have children in them. This is because the data is stored in different databases, so in order to obtain the information we would need to design a specialist software process or count the claims manually. Generally, our experience shows that most closed claims are young single adults, or people who only qualify for a small amount of weekly Income Support. The majority of parents are responsible and will take reasonable steps to comply with our rules and ensure their children are not affected.

The reason we don't count claims with children specifically is because any claim with a child present will activate our safeguarding process as soon as there is a possibility that a further breach could result in it being closed. These claims are then considered individually by senior officers with safeguarding training, and appropriate action can be taken to protect children. This includes home visits by officers and potentially the involvement of other agencies. It is also possible for rent to continue to be paid through a Ministerial Decision payment.

Although I am not customer facing, officers involved in this process know that they can contact either myself, [officer] or the Income Support Manager directly in any situation where a Ministerial Decision payment needs to be arranged in the interests of child welfare. We will ensure that the Minister is briefed whenever appropriate.

Kind regards

[officer and job title]
Social Security | States of Jersey
Philip Le Feuvre House |PO Box 55 | La Motte Street| St Helier | Jersey | JE4
8PE Tel: +44(0)1534 [direct dial] | E: mail to: [officer]

Sat 31/10/2015 09:54

Judith Martin J.Martin3@gov.je

RE: Breach 3 sanctions

To [officer]; Susie Pinel <S.Pinel@gov.je>

Thanks that's fine and good to hear that there are extra safeguards for families with children

Kind regards Judy