



ST HELENA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

ORDER PAPER

Fifth Sitting of Ministers Question Time

Tuesday, 3 March 2026 at 10:00am
In the Council Chamber

“THE AGEING DEMOGRAPHIC: SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS (AD2)”

1. Address by the Speaker
2. Questions:

(Questions have been listed in alphabetical order but will be selected randomly for response during the meeting)

The Hon Clint Beard:

Can the Honourable Chief Minister please inform this House and the island community what current measures the government has in place, and what new initiatives the Ministerial team will be implementing, to address the impact of the rising cost of living on the community, with particular reference to the findings and action points of *The Ageing Demographic: Situational Analysis (AD2)* report?

The Hon Ronald Coleman:

For a number of years it has been known that Health and Social Care needs have risen, and existing sheltered accommodation is continued to be used to meet capacity at the Community Care Complex; can the Honourable Chief Minister say what are the island's plans to address the longer term residential care situation on St Helena which is estimated to be 90 by 2036, being double the number of beds currently at the Community Care Complex and also including domiciliary care?

The Hon Dr Corinda Essex:

Can the Honourable Chief Minister tell this Council, given the projections contained within the Situational Analysis regarding significant decrease in pupil numbers, what policies exist, or are being developed, to ensure that pupils will continue to have a meaningful choice of subject options at GCSE and beyond?

The Hon Robert Midwinter:

Can the Honourable Chief Minister tell this Council, given the widespread labour shortage across both the public and private sectors, what specific, measurable targets have Ministers set for increasing the working-age population through the 2024 Immigration Policy and the International Recruitment Strategy, and how will these targets be achieved within this government's four-year tenure?

The Hon Derek Thomas:

Can the Honourable Chief Minister tell this Council, with an increasing ageing population, healthcare systems are facing rising demand, how is the Government addressing the recruitment and retention of healthcare professionals in light of workforce shrinkage?

The Hon Julie Thomas:

Can the Honourable Chief Minister outline the specific plans and committed funding for implementing the recommendations from the Post-16 Review and the 2024/25 Education Review, ensuring clear employment pathways are created to effectively address the outward migration of young people and prevent them from being better off on Income Related Benefit (IRB) than in low-paid work?