

PEEL HEALTH CAMPUS — SARICH WARD

7900. Mr D.A. Templeman to the Minister for Health

I refer to the Peel Health Campus, known as the Sarich Ward, and ask;

- (a) since the official opening of the Ward on 18 June 2010, how many children have been admitted to the Ward as in-patients;
- (b) since the official opening of the Ward, how many children have been admitted to the Peel Health Campus as in-patients;
- (c) how many days since the initial opening of the Ward has the Ward not been open;
- (d) how many days has the Sarich Ward been closed, even when there have been children staying at the Peel Health Campus as in-patients;
- (e) is there a minimum number of children required to be admitted to the Peel Health Campus before the Sarich Ward is opened; and
- (f) what staffing is required to staff the Sarich Ward when the Ward is opened and, if this depends on how many children are in the Ward, what is the minimum staffing required?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

- (a) 622
- (b) 1258
- (c) The Sarich Wing has been closed for 300 days out of a possible 565 in total.
- (d) There have been 212 days where the unit has been closed and there have been children admitted to PHC.
- (e) Yes there is a policy around a minimum number of children for the ward to be opened. This however, does depend on clinical needs of the children, also the acuity of patients on the adult ward, and operational needs of the hospital.
- (f) The minimum number of staff required for the Sarich Ward to open is 2 staff per shift (6 nurses a day) this is required to increase to 3 nurses depending on the acuity of the children such as children with no boarders, children on oxygen or surgical cases. The nurses need to be paediatric trained or have paediatric experience and all nurses need to be competent in paediatric life support.