



PARLIAMENT
OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. 58
Answered on 4th March, 2026
Fourth Meeting 2025-2026 Session – First Sitting

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION
ASKED BY**

**MR. CHRISTOPHER S. SAUNDERS
ELECTED MEMBER FOR THE
CONSTITUENCY OF BODDEN TOWN WEST**

TO

**THE HON. KATHERINE EBANKS-WILKS
MINISTER FOR HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY**

QUESTION:

Can the Honourable Minister say, what is the process and/or procedure(s) by Public Health for dealing with or managing work permit holders who are granted a work permit when they are HIV positive?

ANSWER:

Mister Speaker, when a person has a reactive HIV screening result (that is, a preliminary positive test), whether through a private provider or a Health Services Authority clinician, the case is reported to the STI/HIV Coordinator within the Public Health Department at the HSA.

Upon notification, the STI/HIV Coordinator will inform the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) / Director of Primary Health Care (DPHC) at CIHSA and then contacts the patient to arrange confirmatory testing, provide counselling, initiate contact tracing, and implement other appropriate public health follow-up measures.

Once the case is laboratory-confirmed, the Medical Officer of Health will formally notify the Director of WORC in writing, advising that an individual has been diagnosed with a communicable disease of public health interest.

Mister Speaker, the cost of HIV treatment and routine monitoring is predictable and clinically manageable; however, it represents an ongoing financial commitment. In the absence of adequate insurance coverage, these costs could have financial implications for the Cayman Islands.

WORC will then contact the person and ascertain whether they have adequate means, including insurance coverage, to meet all costs associated with the condition. If the individual is unable to demonstrate that these costs can be fully covered, a work permit will not be granted.