Nursing Graduates – Employment in Tasmania

Ms ROSOL question to MINISTER for HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH and WELLBEING

My question is on behalf of multiple graduate nurses and their parents in Bass who have told me how upset they are not to have been offered graduate nurse positions despite many achieving high results and getting High Distinctions (HDs) throughout their degree. Many have told me they were promised a graduate position in Tasmania if their grades were high enough, and one would think HDs are high enough. Yet they have missed out while over a quarter of graduate positions have been offered to people from outside Tasmania.

Minister, we have a nursing recruitment and retention problem. Employing Tasmanian graduates is a sensible way to keep Tasmanian nurses here. Why have high-achieving Tasmanian nursing graduates missed out on positions they were promised? Why are people from outside Tasmania being offered positions over Tasmanians who want to stay here? What criteria was used in the selection process, and was any weighting applied to Tasmanian applicants to help us retain local nurses?