

STATES OF JERSEY



DRAFT ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2011 (P.99/2010): SIXTH AMENDMENT (P.99/2010 Amd.(6)) – COMMENTS

**Presented to the States on 10th September 2010
by the Council of Ministers**

STATES GREFFE

COMMENTS

The Council of Ministers is neutral to this amendment.

Senator Le Gresley proposes that –

the net revenue expenditure of the Social Security Department shall be decreased by £6,632 in relation to the restructure of the Christmas Bonus and fixing the rate at £78; and

the net revenue expenditure of the Social Security Department shall be decreased by £6,632 in relation to the restructure of the Christmas Bonus in 2012 and 2013 and fixing the rate at £80 and £82 respectively.

Comment

The Council of Ministers acknowledges Senator Le Gresley's input into the Annual Business Plan process and recognises that his amendment shows consideration of the outcomes and it is grateful for the opportunity to consider an alternative.

The Christmas Bonus is a one-off non-means tested bonus which is currently payable to everyone over pension age and working age adults who are receiving Survivors benefit, Invalid care allowance, 100% Long-term incapacity allowance, Incapacity pension or Invalidity benefit.

The Social Security Department's priority is to protect most vulnerable groups and their proposed changes are in-line with that policy; they will continue to pay to claimants in Jersey aged 65+ with a Social Security pension and those below 65 who are on income support with a disability component.

The amendment would reduce the bonus paid to the most vulnerable groups by £20 in order to continue to pay individuals below 65 and those who receive a variety of contributory benefits.

Financial implications

This part of the amendment would reduce net revenue expenditure by £6,632 in 2011, 2012 and 2013.