WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER CENTRAL QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2023 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2023

Question

"Will the Minister outline what progress, if any, has been made in reviewing the operation of zero-hours contracts in Jersey, and state whether she intends to bring forward for debate any necessary legislation (indicating, if so, the relevant timeframe for such legislation) to fulfil the requests made by the Assembly through the adoption of 'Regulation of Zero-Hours Contracts' (P.32/2021), as amended, in particular –

- (a) the prevention of employers requiring zero-hour workers to always be available for work;
- (b) a right for zero-hour workers to a reasonable notice of work schedule;
- (c) a right to switch to a contract which reflects the normal hours worked; and,
- (d) a right for zero-hour workers to receive compensation for shift cancellation or curtailment without reasonable notice?"

Answer

The Employment Forum, an independent statutory body, is continuing its work into the operation of Zero Hours' Contracts and associated labour protections in Jersey, taking into account the criteria set out with the agreement of the Assembly in P.32/2021. As set out in my Ministerial Delivery Plan, the timeframe for the Forum to complete its work is by the end of Q1 2023. I will then consider the Forum's findings, including any recommendations for legislative action. At this stage it would not be appropriate to speculate on the results of the Forum's work in relation to any of the criteria set out in P.32/2021.