

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BY
DEPUTY P.V.F. LE CLAIRE OF ST. HELIER**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 13th MAY 2008

Question

Has the new measure to remove costs for prescriptions increased the numbers of prescriptions from tourists to Jersey taking advantage of the lack of a charge?

Answer

The Health Insurance (Jersey) Law 1967 provides financial assistance for GP medical services and subsequent prescriptions arising. Only insured people are eligible for this support and the eligibility criteria requires a person to be ordinarily resident in Jersey and entered into the insurance scheme for at least six months.

Visitors to the Island may not access the scheme and are required to use the visitors' clinic should they require urgent and necessary GP services. Under this service, overseas visitors are charged for GP services and private prescriptions are issued.

Under the Health & Social Services (H&SS) and UK reciprocal health agreement, UK visitors may attend the visitors' clinic and receive a prescription at no cost to the UK visitor. However the cost of this consultation and any subsequent prescription is then recharged to the UK by H&SS.