

DRAFT

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY
COMMITTEE BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY, 5th JULY 2005

Question

In questions on 24th May 2005 on LTIA and HIE the President referred to the ‘infinite combinations of illness’ rendering research into additional medical costs ‘of little value’ and stated that a review of incapacity benefit would take place after a full year. Will HIE be available in future to those on over 75% incapacity on LTIA and, if so, what has caused this change of policy?”

Answer

The Deputy will recall, in my answer to his question on 15th March 2005, I advised –

‘the Committee is also considering if such an automatic provision (to HIE) could be extended to claimants with high rates of LTIA without breaching the cash limit set by the States as the HIE scheme is partially funded from general revenues.

This is in line with our policy, described in the Income Support Report (Pg.86), to improve coverage of support towards the health costs of those with the more severe illnesses.’

Having considered whether an automatic provision linking LTIA to HIE could be achieved within cash limits, the Committee decided as recently as 8th June 2005, that this was possible for those at the higher end of the percentage loss of faculty, i.e. those over 75 per cent.