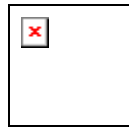


**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE COST OF OPHTHALMIC AND DENTAL CARE FOR PERSONS AGED
OVER 65: PROPOSED SCHEME (P.49/2001) -
SECOND AMENDMENTS**

**Lodged au Greffe on 10th April 2001
by Deputy A. Breckon of St. Saviour**



STATES OF JERSEY

STATES GREFFE

180

2001

P.49 Amd.(2)

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE COST OF OPHTHALMIC
AND DENTAL CARE FOR PERSONS AGED OVER 65: PROPOSED SCHEME (P.49/2001) - SECOND
AMENDMENTS

- (1) *In paragraph (c) of the proposition for the words “the charity Age Concern (Jersey)” substitute the words “the Employment and Social Security Committee”.*
- (2) *In paragraph (d) of the proposition for the words “Age Concern Jersey” substitute the words “Employment and Social Security Committee”.*

DEPUTY A. BRECKON OF ST. SAVIOUR

Report

“Public Services Manpower Report for the period 1st July to 31st December 2000 - R.C.14 of 3rd April 2001”, shows that the Employment and Social Security Committee/Department had 111 permanent employees, ten contracts, two trainees and 11 vacancies.

I have attached further information below and I question why the Employment and Social Security Committee **cannot** find the required manpower from within its existing establishment.

The Committee should be mindful of the States debate of 12th and 13th September 2000 on the “Anti-inflation strategy” (P.125/2000, as amended), in particular the amendment of Deputy J.L. Dorey of St. Helier, paragraph (h)-

“To charge all Committees of the States to produce a prioritised list of their current activities, with a view to identifying core services and thereby making more efficient use of States’ financial and manpower resources”.

EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY MANPOWER

Register of contract posts

31st December 1999	6.5
30th June 2000	13.5
31st December 2000	13.5

Increases between 31st December 1999 and 30th June 2000 for the following posts is shown with A and B (below) and the changes of job title are further noted in C (below).

A. Register of contract posts as at 31st December 1999 (extract from R.C. 23/2000)

Department	Start date	End date	Job title	Post F.T.E.
Employment and Social Security	01/07/1998	30/06/2001	Research and Projects Officer	1.00
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Training Manager	1.00
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Training Assistant	1.00
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Employment Assistant	1.50
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Special Needs Employment Assistant	0.50
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Special Needs Employment Assistant	1.00
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Board Secretary	0.50
				6.50

B. Register of agreed contract posts as at 30th June 2000 (extract from R.C. 37/2000)

Department	Start date	End date (max)	Job title	Post F.T.E.
Employment and Social Security	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Training Manager	1.00
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Training Assistant	1.00
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Employment Assistants	1.50
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Special Needs Employment Assistant	0.50
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Special Needs Employment Administrator	1.00
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Board Secretary	0.50
	20/03/2000	30/06/2002	Business Transformation Director	1.00
	20/03/2000	30/06/2002	I.T. Specialist	1.00
	19/06/2000	30/06/2000	Social Security Reform Implementation Staff	3.00
	19/06/2000	30/06/2000	Business Transformation Support	3.00
				13.50

C. Register of agreed contract posts as at 31st December 2000 (extract from R.C. 14/2001)

Department	Start date	End date (max)	Job title	Post F.T.E.
Employment and Social Security	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Training Manager	1.00
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Training Assistant	1.00
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Employment Assistant	1.50
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Special Needs Employment Assistant	0.50
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Special Needs Employment Administrator	1.00
	01/06/1999	31/05/2002	Board Secretary	0.50
	20/03/2000	30/06/2002	Business Transformation Director	1.00
	20/03/2000	30/06/2002	IT Specialist	1.00
	19/06/2000	30/06/2002	Social Security Reform Implementation Staff	3.00
	17/06/2000	30/06/2002	Business Transformation Support (Communications)	1.00
	18/06/2000	30/06/2002	Business Transformation Support (Reforms)	1.00
	19/06/2000	30/06/2002	Business Transformation Support (IT)	1.00
				13.50

The Committee states in its own Report (to P.49/2000) (Page 5) -

“The Employment and Social Security Committee has experience of benefit administration but has no experience of dental and optical subsidy schemes and all that they entail”.

The Report goes on -

“A likely two additional posts were identified which were not available in the Department, and given current States policy on manpower, the Committee looked to outsourcing both on and off-Island”.

I do **not** believe the Committee and Department have looked either long and hard enough at finding an internal solution, if the Committee seeks to use “agencies” for the payment of benefit then perhaps this should be a policy issue and be part of a wider debate?

I believe the Department would already have much of the necessary information and technology to hand and officers are sworn to secrecy - therefore there is little, if any chance of “gossip”.

I believe providing and delivering a range of benefits, including this one are “core functions” and the Employment and Social Security Committee should seriously review other “current activities” with a view to making more efficient use of States financial and manpower resources.

Consider the above as constructive scrutiny.

For the reasons set out in this report I do not believe there are any additional implications for the financial or manpower resources of the States arising out of this amendment.