

Health Social Security and Housing Scrutiny Panel

Income Support Sub-Panel

PUBLIC SESSION

Record of Meeting conducted by email


Date: **9th October 2009**

Meeting Number: **1**

Present	Deputy G.P. Southern, Chairman Connétable S.A. Yates Deputy D.J. De Sousa Deputy T. Vallois Mr. E. Le Quesne
Apologies	Connétable D. Mezbourian
In attendance	C. Le Quesne, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
517/13(8)	<p>The Sub-Panel received and approved its Terms of Reference.</p> <p>It noted that the revised Terms of Reference would be sent to the Health, Social Security and Housing Panel for approval on the 13th October 2009 and subsequently circulated to the Chairmen's Committee.</p> <p>The terms of reference agreed by the Sub-Panel were as follows -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To assess whether Income Support benefit levels and structures are set appropriately in relation to <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The changing income distribution and the relative poverty standard; and, b. Minimum standard of living and price inflation, with particular reference to rent levels and the effects of price inflation on households below average income 2. To assess how the level of Income Support benefits and their design potentially interact with other areas of fiscal and social policy, with particular regard to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Income tax thresholds Social Insurance contributions Minimum wage levels Pensions Social rent-setting policy and housing finance 	CLQ

	<p>With particular examination of -</p> <p>Treatment of earned and unearned income; Tapers and disregards; Fixed Tariff Income; and,</p> <p>the incentive structures that result from such design, especially those regarding incentives for employment and saving.</p> <p>3. To review the delivery of Special Payments with particular regard to dental and medical needs;</p> <p>4. To examine the structure of the components of Income Support and their treatment of potentially vulnerable target groups, to specifically include -</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Children; Pensioners; Single parent families; Young people; and, Those with disability.</p> <p>5. To examine evidence concerning the impact of the phasing out of transitional payments;</p> <p>6. To consider any other pertinent matters that may arise during the course of the review.</p>	
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Deputy G. P. Southern
Chairman

Date 30th October 2009