WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER QUESTION SUBMITTED ON TUESDAY 19th APRIL 2022 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 26th APRIL 2022

Question

"Following the success in improving access to affordable primary health care for some 11,000 individuals in Income Support households under the Health Access Scheme, will the Minister advise what consideration, if any, has been given to any further extension and funding of the Scheme for improving access to affordable primary care; and what policy recommendations, if any, will be made to the Minister's successor in this area?"

Answer

The Health Access Scheme was launched in December 2020 to reduce the cost of General Practice Services for people in Income Support households and people in receipt of Pension Plus Benefit. An extension of the scheme will be considered as part of the wider review which features as a commitment in the 2022-2025 Government Plan (Page 28)

"The Minister for Health and Social Services will undertake a wider health economic review during 2022 to inform funding options for increased health care costs and for any potential new health access schemes, to be brought forward in 2023 for the Government Plan 2024-27."