

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY M.R. HIGGINS OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 9th APRIL 2018**

Question

Will the Minister explain what data he has regarding the number and type of carers in the Island; and will he outline what assessment, if any, has been made of their needs, what provisions he has made to assist them in meeting those needs, and what policies or initiatives, if any, are being considered to assist them in the future?

Answer

Key information pertinent to carers in Jersey is collated and available through the 'Jersey Carers' Strategy' coordinated on behalf of the Carers' Partnership Group by the Jersey Association of Carers Incorporated (JACI).

The 2017 Carers' Strategy states that Jersey's 2016 Health & Life Opportunities Survey found that one in ten households include a self-identified 'carer' and that 1% of households have a young carer who is under the age of 19.

All agencies involved with carers, including the States, community & voluntary bodies and private sector organisations, have access to this information via the Jersey Online Directory (JOD) at www.jod.je

Presently, any assessment of a carer's individual needs is incorporated within the assessment of the individual person who is cared for. This is the responsibility of the named care coordinator for the cared for person, and this assessment is provided by the Community & Social Services Adult Social Care Team. This assessment is known as CarePartner and forms a part of the overall care plan.

Unique short break arrangements, often known as respite care, are then provided as a part of the individual care plan. This can include day time support, outreach support and/or residential short breaks.

Dependent upon the individual's personal assessment, this may be funded via the Social Security Income Support personal care component or Long-Term Care Benefit.

Earlier this year, the Chief Minister, following discussion with Dr Margaret Bayes, Chair JACI, commissioned Professor Luke Clements to work with the Carers' Partnership Group to make recommendations as to the feasibility of carer-specific legislation for Jersey. This work is now in train.