

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 2nd JUNE 2020**

Question

Will the Minister explain to the Assembly whether the contracts negotiated with the Island's GPs make provision for those Islanders who are in greatest financial need and / or who have medical vulnerabilities (such as the elderly on low incomes and those with chronic illness), as requested by the Assembly with its adoption of 'Affordable access to Primary Care Scheme' (P.125/2019), and if not, will he explain why not and advise when measures will be brought in to cater for these two groups?

Answer

Under the contract agreed between the government and GPs, a Government subsidy means that GPs are charging patients a reduced fee – approximately 50 per cent less than before. The fee arrangements are set out below:

Covid Response Team Home visit and All End of Life Free

General Practice consultations (Including telephone and video consultations and nurse consultations)

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| • Children aged 0 to 4 | Free |
| • Children and young people 5 to 17 | £10 |
| • All other consultations | £20 |
| • Home Visit | £40 |
| • Repeat consultation on same issue within 72 hours | Free |
| • Pregnancy bundle | £120 |

Free Services

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| • Cervical Smear | Free |
| • Childhood Immunisations | Free |
| • Repeat Prescription | Free |
| • Prescription collection/delivery service | Free |
| • Letter of referral | Free |

These arrangements are a result of health professionals coming together to tackle the coronavirus pandemic. Future arrangements will be dependent on further discussions with the GPs as the contracts end. Work continues in relation to the specific groups identified in the 'Affordable access to Primary Care Scheme' (P.125/2019), but the discussions with GPs will heavily influence the outcome.