

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 16th JUNE 2020**

Question

Given that one of the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic has been the diversion of resources from the completion of the 2019/20 Income Distribution / Household Expenditure Surveys (I.D.S. / H.E.S.), will the Chief Member state when a report on the I.D.S., showing pre-Covid-19 pandemic income distribution, will be published and will he confirm that the report will be used by the Government when assessing the delivery of Common Strategic Policy objectives to reduce income inequality?

Answer

The 2019/20 round of the household Living Costs and Income Survey (formerly the Household Spending and Income Survey) commenced in July 2019 and was due to run continuously over the subsequent twelve-month period. However, the developing Covid-19 situation led the Chief Statistician to decide to pause the fieldwork (data-gathering) in March 2020, with a view to re-starting when on-Island conditions were appropriate.

The Chief Statistician anticipates that the results of the analysis of the household income data collected during the pre-Covid nine-month period from July 2019 to March 2020 will be published in Q4 2020.

The results are expected to be reflected in the affordable living indicators within Jersey's Performance Framework. The results will be available to Government and Islanders more widely to assess how Jersey is progressing against the strategic priority of reducing income inequality and improving the standard of living.