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13 June 2024

Economic and International Affairs Scrutiny Panel Morier House Halkett Place St Helier JE1 1DD

Dear Panel

Re: Cash as legal tender

I refer to the Article in the Jersey Evening Post on Tuesday 11 June 2024 as to the acceptance of cash for transactions in Jersey. At this present time it is essential that cash is kept as a viable form of legal tender.

There are a great many elderly people living in Jersey who use only cash and don't use credit/debit cards or online banking. To stop the use of cash would only endanger the lives of these people in effecting transactions that they are unsure about and exclude them from joining in certain activities which they might want to partake in.

Only yesterday, I gave my friend some cash as he was going to B&Q and asked him to buy some items for me. If people do not keep a close eye on their bank balances they could easily go overdrawn and be subject to extra charges, whereas if they have only so much cash in hand, then that is all they can spend.

From time to time people can become housebound, say after an operation and cannot go out as happened to me for several months. I gave cash to friends who would buy small amounts of groceries for me on a daily basis. Cash is also used for a tip as good service, raffle tickets, farm honesty boxes etc. Please keep the right to use cash going as to stop it would be detrimental to many islanders and could also cause them emotional stress, especially the elderly.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs MTS Ison

Cc: Age Concern