

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 14TH JUNE 2016**

Question

Will the Minister detail for members what proposals, if any, he has under consideration for new or increased charges for hospital services in order to meet his budget targets under the next stage of the MTFP and state what sums he expects to raise through each such charge? Will he further state what principles and practical measures he will apply to ensure that the impact of such charges are mitigated for those on low incomes or with high medical needs?

Answer

The Health and Social Services Department is always seeking to deliver services to Islanders in the most efficient and effective way possible, while prioritising the safety of patients. As one would expect, services are always under review to ensure value for money. The department is one of the priority areas identified by the Council of Ministers in the States Strategic Plan, and as such is receiving almost £40 million of additional annual funding by 2019.

However we are seeking savings through sustainable efficiencies, service redesign and cost reductions. Future plans are currently being finalised and will appear in the MTFP Addition, which is due to be lodged with the States Assembly on Thursday June 30th. Detailed proposals for savings and investment will be made public on that date and States Members will receive a detailed briefing on the plan before it goes into the public domain.

Ministers have been considering the potential impact of the proposals contained in the package of measures.