

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY
BY DEPUTY I. GARDINER OF ST. HELIER NORTH
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2025
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 17th FEBRUARY 2025**

Question

“In relation to the Government COVID-19 support for businesses, specifically the deferral of Social Security payments by employers for 2020 and 2021, will the Minister advise –

- (a) how many businesses deferred their payments, and the total amount deferred;
- (b) how many businesses owed money at the end of 2024, and the total amount outstanding; and
- (c) what plans exist, if any, to recover any remaining payments?”

Answer

To support businesses who were most adversely impacted during the COVID-19 period the Government offered a range of measures including the deferral of Class 1 Social Security payments.

- (a) At the end of August 2020, there were 1,400 businesses that had deferred Class 1 Social Security payments totalling £16.7 million.
- (b) At the end of 2024, there were 823 businesses that had deferred Class 1 Social Security payments totalling £7.7 million.
- (c) In January 2025, the Government wrote to all businesses with outstanding deferred Class 1 Social Security payments to inform them that deferred Class 1 Social Security payments are now due. If businesses are unable to pay, they are able to contact the Debt Collection Team to discuss a payment plan.