

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY
BY DEPUTY R.G. LE HERISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 16th MAY 2006

Question

What improvements, in terms of financial support, if any, is the Minister contemplating for parents who have deaf children in their care?

Answer

A full review of Disability Benefits was undertaken in 2003, resulting in a report to the States the following year on "Disability Benefit System : Reform". The States approved the way forward and more detailed proposals were subsequently approved by the States as part of the new "Income Support System" proposals (P.86/2005). In summary, existing benefits will be replaced by a disability component for those in receipt of Income Support.

The amount of the component will depend on the degree of disability. Work is progressing on this at present but I can say that it is not the intention of the new system to single out one particular group of disabilities.