

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHIEF MINISTER
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 26th APRIL 2021
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 4th MAY 2021**

Question

Given that the Chief Minister has stated that a “poverty strategy” will be in place by the end of 2021, will he outline for members the options under consideration for developing and implementing this strategy, and state what progress has been made in assessing the impact of Covid-19 on employment, income and take up of benefits?

Answer

The 2021 Government Plan includes the following commitment:

“We commit to ... develop a Poverty Strategy for inclusion in the 2022 Government Plan.”.

This strategy is at an early stage of development and full details will be included in the 2022 Government Plan. Regular statistics are published in respect of a range of measures in relation to the impact of Covid 19. The [latest report](#) was published on 9 April 2021. It is described as follows:

“The aim of this report is to provide economic information to decision makers, businesses, and members of the public during the COVID-19 pandemic. The next report will be published in July, but online datasets will be updated monthly on opendata.gov.je.

The latest quarter’s Registered Actively Seeking Work figures and report can be found [here](#).

This report presents statistics and indicators in the following areas:

- Income Support
- Business Disruption Loan Guarantee Scheme
- Visitor Accommodation Support Scheme (VASS)
- Coronavirus Government Co-Funded Payroll Scheme (Phases Two, Three, Three+ and Four)
 - o a sectoral breakdown for all claims, Phase Two onwards, in Appendix A
- Royal Court housing transactions
- Road and public transport usage
- Monthly passenger departures from the Island