

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL  
SECURITY COMMITTEE BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER**

**ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 19th JULY 2005**

**Question**

- (a) Will the President inform members of the numbers of Long Term Incapacity Allowance (LTIA) applicants there were for the 2nd quarter of 2005 together with the numbers assessed and at what percentages of incapacity?
- (b) In his response to my question of 19th April 2005, the President stated that information should be available by the end of June 2005 on the number of LTIA claimants in the 1st quarter 2005 who were actually in work. Will the President provide these figures for members along with the equivalent figures for the last quarter of 2004, and, if unable to do so, explain the reasons why?
- (c) Also in his response to my question of 19th April 2005, the President gave comparative 2003/2004 figures for claims for the last quarter of each year for Disablement, Invalidity and LTIA benefits. These show new or re-opened claims for Invalidity at 134 compared with LTIA at 137 for the final quarter 2004. Would the President explain to members why there should be so many such claims for Invalidity in this period when this benefit had been replaced by LTIA and would he confirm whether all new claimants for long-term benefits currently being processed are now on LTIA?

**Answer**

- (a) In replying to the Deputy's questions I must stress that all figures given in my answers represent a snapshot in time.

In the 2nd quarter of 2005, 109 LTIA applicants have been assessed by a medical board with the following results –

Assessment	5%	10 / 15 %	20 / 25%	30 / 35%	40 / 45%	50 / 55%	60 / 65%	70 / 75%	80 / 85%	90 / 95%	100 %
Number	5	10	11	14	8	24	10	5	7	4	11

- (b) Allowing for late claims and assessments there were 155 valid claims for LTIA made in the last quarter of 2004. Of this cohort of people 35 per cent worked and paid contributions in the last quarter of 2004 and for this particular cohort the figure increased to 42 per cent in the first quarter of 2005. Under the old Invalidity Benefit system claimants could not work and receive benefit. More detailed analysis of this encouraging trend will take place as further data is collated over a reasonable period of time. There were a total of 136 claims for LTIA in the first quarter 2005 of which 26 per cent of claimants worked and paid contributions.
- (c) Under the terms of the transition from the old to new Incapacity Benefits approved by the States, individuals with existing Invalidity Benefit claims on 1st October 2004, retained rights acquired under the old legislation. This meant that normal medical certification procedures continued to cater for late claims, backdating and medical boarding reports in Jersey and from abroad after the change in legislation. Invalidity claimants are still subject to review by medical boards and these reviews were included in the total given in my answer. I can confirm that new claims processed now would receive LTIA but there is still the possibility of 'retained rights' cases, albeit very rarely, appearing in the future.