

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY
BY DEPUTY S.Y. MÉZEC OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 10th MARCH 2015**

Question

Could the Minister inform members what provisions are available for seriously ill Island residents who wish to be transferred to be cared for in their jurisdiction of birth and whether the Department will meet the costs of people wanting to do this when the costs of care in their jurisdiction of birth is lower than it is in Jersey?

Answer

The Social Security Department provides a variety of benefits to support people with long-term illnesses. Working age individuals who have worked in Jersey and have a contribution record may be entitled to claim long-term incapacity allowance. This benefit can be paid anywhere in the world. An older person who is already claiming a pension can also receive their pension payments throughout the world.

The long-term-care benefit has recently been introduced to support the cost of long-term care needs. The income support system also provides components to people who have ongoing medical or care needs. Both these benefits are available to people living and being cared for in Jersey. The long-term care legislation and the income support legislation include residency requirements and both laws have been designed to support local residents. Neither benefit can be paid off island. However, the income support law does provide for one off special payments to be made to assist with the costs of repatriation, and this could include helping a seriously ill individual move back to their home country.