

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY
BY DEPUTY G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 16th JUNE 2015**

Question

Can the Minister indicate to members what changes to the benefit regime, if any, are under consideration which would meet the criteria outlined in the Resource Statement to the draft Strategic Plan of supporting financial independence, targeting those most in need and limiting the impact on individuals?

Will she also state what proportion of the £35 million savings target it is intended to deliver from savings to the benefit regime?

Will she further distinguish between changes to contributory benefits and those paid for out of tax revenues?

Answer

I have maintained that all benefits are under consideration. It is not appropriate at this stage to identify the level of savings that will make up the £35 million shown on page 19 of the Resource Statement to the Draft Strategic Plan. It is important that all options are carefully considered before the results are compiled. I am continuing to work with my ministerial colleagues on finalising these details before the end of June. The Medium Term Financial Plan will be lodged on 30 June and prior to this the Treasury and Resources Department will be extending invitations for a briefing to States members.