

2019.09.10

10 Deputy K.G. Pamplin of the Minister for Infrastructure regarding the disability access card for the bus service: (OQ.209/2019)

Further to the Minister's answer to my Written Question 378/2019, will he confirm that the trial of the disability access card will be continued, or made permanent?

Deputy K.C. Lewis (The Minister for Infrastructure):

I am pleased to confirm that the AvanchiAccess travel pass scheme for Jersey residents with a prescribed disability will be continued beyond its initial trial period, which has been due to end on 31st December 2019. I will be signing a Ministerial Decision to this effect shortly. The scheme will remain exactly as per the format adopted for the initial trial period and all existing pass holders will be able to exchange their current travel pass at no charge, while new applicants will receive a pass with the extended validity already applied.

3.10.1 Deputy K.G. Pamplin:

That is good news and I thank the Minister for confirming that. As he noted, in 3 months' time the passes would have expired, so that is very pleasing to hear. However, will he agree to undertake a meeting with various disability charity groups, who have been supporting Islanders with long-term access needs in the process, just to review how it has gone from that perspective and how we can tweak it and make it better and easier for those with long-term access needs in attaining this pass?

[11:00]

Deputy K.C. Lewis:

Indeed, I believe my officers are doing that very thing. May I just point out the AvanchiAccess uptake, as of August 2019 there are at present 615 passes in operation?