

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
BY DEPUTY S.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER  
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2022  
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 28th FEBRUARY 2022**

**Question**

“Further to the response to [Written Question 130/2020](#), in which the Minister informed members that “*a low-income resident in a care home is not expected to use their [Long-Term Care] personal allowance to meet specialist medical costs*” but instead might apply for a special payment through the Income Support scheme, and also that a pilot scheme for supplying medical hosiery to those in the community was underway and could potentially be expanded to include those in their homes meeting such costs independently, will the Minister –

- (a) advise whether such payments for specialist medical costs are made as grants and do not require repayment; and
- (b) inform members of the progress made with the scheme to supply of medical hosiery?”

**Answer**

- a) advise whether such payments for specialist medical costs are made as grants and do not require repayment; and**

The Minister for Social Security has confirmed that these payments are made as grants and do not require repayment.

**(b) progress made with the scheme to supply of medical hosiery.**

The initial pilot scheme for medical hosiery has proved very successful for those using the service. It was a small pilot which started in March 2020 and due to its success it has continued. An options paper has been written for further developing the service. A business case is now being put together to draw down funding from the 2023 Government plan to implement the extension and expansion of the service.

The pilot has facilitated the provision of medical hosiery through District Nursing in community settings (including their own homes or care homes) for all patients with venous lower limb conditions. It has ensured that people have early access to appropriate treatment improving the long-term management of the condition.