

STATES OF JERSEY



LONG TERM CARE OF THE ELDERLY (S.R.12/2008): RESPONSE OF THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

**Presented to the States on 21st July 2009
by the Minister for Social Security**

STATES GREFFE

LONG TERM CARE OF THE ELDERLY (S.R.12/2008): RESPONSE OF THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

The Minister for Social Security thanks the Scrutiny Panel for its detailed work on the issue of Long Term Care, as detailed in the Long Term Care of the Elderly Report – S.R.12/2008.

The Minister endorses the comments made by the Minister for Health and Social Services, which were prepared in conjunction with the Social Security Department. These comments were presented to the States on 30th March 2009 (S.R.12/2008 Res.).

The following additional comments are made in respect of recommendations pertinent to the Social Security Department.

Recommendation 1 – Establish a working party under the chairmanship of the Minister for Health and Social Services:

The Minister will be pleased to become a member of any such formal working group established by the Minister for Health and Social Services. Regular meetings currently take place between Health and Social Services and Social Security at officer level in respect of a number of initiatives.

Recommendations 4, 5 and 6 – Investigate a contributory insurance-based scheme for long-term care funding:

As explained in the response of the Minister for Health and Social Services, the 2009 Business Plan for Social Security includes a commitment to produce a consultation paper on this subject by June 2009. Due to the need to divert resources to deal with a number of matters, including detailed pandemic H1N1 flu planning, the introduction of an insolvency scheme and the impact of economic stimulus bids, it will not be possible to meet the original timetable; but a report will be available in the next few weeks. The report will cover long-term care for individuals of all ages.

Recommendation 8 – Guidance and education:

The Minister endorses the response of the Minister for Health and Social Services. A guide to current residential care support is now available as a leaflet and on the www.gov.je website.

Recommendation 9 – Elderly care funding approached as a discrete, urgent issue:

The Minister endorses the response of the Minister for Health and Social Services. The Department will work towards primary legislation being approved by the States before the end of 2010. After this, it will still be necessary to prepare and implement detailed regulations and new administrative processes.

Recommendation 13 – “Open book” policy for care providers:

The method of identifying appropriate levels of support will be considered as part of the overall project reviewing funding for long-term care.