WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY
BY DEPUTY L.V. FELTHAM OF ST. HELIER CENTRAL
QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2026
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2026

Question

"In preparing for the 2028 Budget, will the Minister commit to –

(a) assessing how the 2027 one-off Community Cost Bonus top-up and the Family Support Payment, as set out in the Proposed Budget 2027-2030, have met the eligible households' needs;
(b) publishing the results of the above assessment; and
(c) providing a deadline for any decision on whether further support is needed?"

Answer

(a) and (b) No, this is not a commitment I am able to make, for the following reasons:

The 2027 one off supplement to the Community Cost Bonus will provide £200 per household. The 2027 Family Support Payment will provide a one off payment of £250 per school age child. These payments are designed to provide some extra help to families with a low to medium income. Funding is currently only provided for one year.

There are other changes in the 2027 budget to support affordability – for example the individual tax threshold will increase by £600, reducing tax liability by up to £156 per person for 90% of taxpayers. There are additional measures that are targeted at new parents, parents of 2-3 year olds and parents of secondary school pupils.

The time, cost and resources associated with seeking to track the precise impact of how a one-off payment has supported a household would be disproportionate to the information that would be gained. Individual families will make their own personal decisions as to how to allocate the additional lump sum payment. What is known, is that the family will benefit from the extra payment. A proportionate evaluation of the operation of the scheme will be undertaken, as is standard for any new initiatives implemented by the Department.

As Members will be aware, Ministers have set up an Affordability Ministerial Group, which will oversee a project over the coming months to identify key affordability issues and to provide for Government action in the 2028 to 2030 budget. The budget will be developed in detail from Spring next year.

(c) As noted above the 2028 Budget document will provide details of ongoing Government funding to support affordability issues. The 2028 Budget will be published no later than September 2027.