2022-57

REPLY BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TO QUESTIONS POSED BY DEPUTY PROW PURSUANT TO RULE 14 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. Following on from Primary Care Survey, sponsored by the Committee for Health and Social Care (HSC), the recent on-line cancer petition and representations made by the Guernsey Cancer Alliance (GCA), will HSC commit to undertaking a comprehensive review of Emergency Department charging policies, particularly where patients are receiving secondary health care and need urgent out of hours treatment or where 'financial vulnerability' is apparent, in consultation with third sector stake holders?

The Committee has advised that it will be carrying out a review of Emergency Department charges. The media release issued by the Committee on 30th November 2022 provides more context to that review, highlighting the need to balance the island's difficult financial position and the wider revenue pressures across health and social care. The media statement is available from this link: <u>Committee for HSC reinstates policy on ED charges for cancer patients</u> - <u>States of Guernsey (gov.gg)</u>

It would be a matter for the Committee *for* Employment & Social Security to advise in respect of financial vulnerability. There are a number of social security measures already in place to support people who may be unable to work for a variety of reasons, including illness, and this includes financial assistance with medical expenses where the requirements of the Income Support Scheme are met.

Date of receipt of question: 29th November 2022 **Date of response:** 13th December 2022