

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

COMMITTEE FOR EMPLOYMENT & SOCIAL SECURITY

NON-CONTRIBUTORY BENEFIT RATES FOR 2024

The States are asked to decide:

Whether, after consideration of the Policy Letter entitled 'Non-contributory Benefit Rates for 2024', dated 9th October 2023, they are of the opinion:

1. To set the income support requirement rates at the rates set out in Tables 1 and 2 of the Policy Letter, from 5th January 2024.
2. To set the income support limits of weekly income for people residing in residential homes, nursing homes, EMI (dementia care) accommodation, and the Guernsey Cheshire Home at the rates set out in Table 3 of the Policy Letter, from 5th January 2024.
3. To set the income support carer's allowance disregard at £50 per week, subject to first making necessary administrative changes, as detailed in paragraphs 2.19 to 2.21 of the Policy Letter.
4. To set the personal allowances payable to persons in Guernsey and Alderney residential or nursing homes who are in receipt of income support and to persons in United Kingdom hospitals or care homes who are in receipt of income support at the amounts set out in Table 4 of the Policy Letter, from 5th January 2024.
5. To set the maximum rent allowances, for income support purposes, at the amounts set out in Table 5 of the Policy Letter, from 5th January 2024.
6. To set the supplementary fuel allowance at £36.28 per week, from 27th October 2023 to 25th April 2024.
7. To note that a person in receipt of income support who is a single parent or the member of a couple that is primarily responsible for childcare will be expected to work part-time (a minimum of 20 hours per week) from the point at which their youngest child turns three (previously five) with effect from 1st September 2024.
8. To set the rate of family allowance at £16.90 per week, from 1st January 2024.

9. To set the rates and annual income limit for severe disability benefit and carer's allowance at the rates and limit set out in Table 6 of the Policy Letter, from 1st January 2024.
10. To set the payment tariffs under the Mesothelioma Compensation Scheme at the rates set out in Table 10 in the Appendix to the Policy Letter, from 1st January 2024.
11. To direct the preparation of such legislation as may be necessary to give effect to the above decisions.

The above Propositions have been submitted to His Majesty's Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications in accordance with Rule 4(1)(c) of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees.

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

COMMITTEE FOR EMPLOYMENT & SOCIAL SECURITY

NON-CONTRIBUTORY BENEFIT RATES FOR 2024

The Presiding Officer
States of Guernsey
Royal Court House
St Peter Port

9th October 2023

Dear Sir

1. Executive summary

- 1.1. The Committee *for* Employment & Social Security ('the Committee') has undertaken its annual review of the non-contributory benefits for which it is responsible. Non-contributory benefits are those funded entirely through General Revenue, which comes from tax income and not from Social Security contributions. These benefits include income support, family allowance, severe disability benefit and carer's allowance. In addition, the Work2Benefit Scheme, school uniform allowance, educational maintenance grants, the free TV licence scheme for persons aged over 75 in receipt of income support and the mesothelioma compensation scheme, are administered by the Committee and funded through General Revenue.
- 1.2. The Committee recommends that the majority of non-contributory benefit rates, limits, and allowances which applied from 6th January 2023, be increased in 2024 by 6.8%, this being the annual rate of 'core' inflation (RPIX) for the year ending 30th June 2023. This is in line with the usual non-contributory uprating policy. On 21st June 2023, following consideration of a Policy Letter from the Committee entitled 'Interim Uprating of Income Support Rates'¹, the States approved proposals to increase income support requirement rates, limits of weekly income and the maximum rent allowances by 2.9% with effect from 11th August 2023. To clarify, the proposals in this Policy Letter which relate to income support, use the rates which applied from

¹ Interim Uprating of Income Support Rates ([Billet d'État IX of 2023, Article V](#)).

6th January 2023, rather than 11th August 2023, as the baseline position for uprating.

- 1.3. The Committee is recommending three exceptions to the general policy set out in the above paragraph.
- 1.4. Firstly, The Committee is recommending a decrease of 2.1% in the fuel allowance, taking it to £36.28 per week for the period from 27th October 2023 to 25th April 2024. This is in line with the annual percentage change in the cost of fuel, light and power for the year ending in June 2023.
- 1.5. Secondly, the Committee proposes that the carer's allowance disregard (i.e. the amount of carer's allowance which is disregarded when calculating a person's entitlement to income support) be increased from £40 to £50 per week (i.e. a 25% increase). This proposal follows calls in recent years to significantly increase the rate of carer's allowance. However, doing so would carry a significant cost as it would apply to all recipients, and, due to the way that income support is calculated, low-income carers in receipt of income support would not benefit at all from an above-inflation increase in the rate of carer's allowance, unless the carer's allowance disregard were increased by an equivalent amount. The Committee is, therefore, proposing that the amount of the weekly carer's allowance disregard be increased by £10, alongside an RPIX increase to the rate of carer's allowance. This will ensure that more assistance is targeted towards low-income carers.
- 1.6. Thirdly, the Committee proposes that the annual household income limit in respect of family allowance remains unchanged at £120,000. This represents a real-terms reduction in the limit for the second successive year.
- 1.7. The Committee asks the States to note that it intends to adjust the income support work requirement criteria for single parents or the member of a couple that is primarily responsible for childcare, to bring income support policy more into line with the lived experience of many working parents who are not in receipt of income support. Such persons will be required, as a condition of entitlement to income support, to work part-time (a minimum of 20 hours per week) from the point at which their youngest child turns three (currently five). To provide parents with adequate notice of this forthcoming change, the Committee intends to make this change by Regulation with effect from 1st September 2024.

2. Income Support

Requirement rates

- 2.1. Income support is payable at either long-term or short-term rates. Most claims will begin at short-term rates. Long-term rates are payable when a claim reaches six months in duration, or from the outset for pensioners and those with severe disabilities. Individuals who have income that falls between their short-term and long-term requirement rate will not receive a cash benefit for the first six months of their claim but will be eligible to receive payment at long-term rates from six months onwards.
- 2.2. The amount of income support that a person can receive is determined by 'requirement rates' which are based on household composition, including the age and number of dependent children within the household. The requirement rate is intended to cover all daily living expenses (including, but not limited to, food, clothing and household goods and services) with the exception of housing costs which are covered by a separate rent allowance or, in the case of homeowners, an allowance to cover mortgage interest payments. The allowance payable for accommodation costs is capped at a maximum level depending on accommodation type and household composition.
- 2.3. In 2022, an exercise was undertaken to rebase the 2023 income support requirement rates using adjusted and modified 'baskets of goods'² produced as part of the 2021 Minimum Income Standard for Guernsey study carried out by Loughborough University's Centre for Research in Social Policy.
- 2.4. For 2024, the Committee recommends that income support requirement rates be increased by 6.8%, in line with RPIX for the year ending 30th June 2023. This increase is to be applied to requirement rates that applied from 6th January 2023 to 10th August 2023, rather than the interim rates which came into force on 11th August 2023. The proposed 2024 rates are in the region of 3.8% higher than the rates which currently apply.
- 2.5. Tables 1 and 2 overleaf set out the proposed short-term and long-term income support requirement rates for 2024, alongside current and previous rates for 2023.

² Lists of essential goods and services. Minimum Income Standard research produces these lists using a guiding principle of what is needed to participate fully in society, and the Committee adjusted these lists to ensure they were appropriate for a social welfare system that is both socially just and financially sustainable.

Table 1 – Proposed weekly short-term income support requirement rates for 2024, shown alongside 2023 requirement rates

	Rates from 6 th January 2023 to 10 th August 2023	Rates from 11 th August 2023	Proposed rates w.e.f. 5 th January 2024
Householders:			
Cohabiting/married couple	£242.80	£249.84	£259.31
Single householder	£145.55	£149.77	£155.45
Non-householder:			
18 or over	£111.09	£114.31	£118.64
Non-householder:			
Rent allowance	£86.00	£88.50	£92.00
Member of a household:			
11 and over	£106.57	£109.66	£113.82
5 – 10	£83.41	£85.83	£89.08
Under 5	£68.39	£70.37	£73.04

Table 2 – Proposed weekly long-term income support requirement rates for 2024, shown alongside 2023 requirement rates

	Rates from 6 th January 2023 to 10 th August 2023	Rates from 11 th August 2023	Proposed rates w.e.f. 5 th January 2024
Householders:			
Cohabiting/married couple	£345.50	£355.52	£368.99
Single householder	£207.80	£213.83	£221.93
Non-householder:			
18 or over	£158.22	£162.81	£168.98
Non-householder:			
Rent allowance	£86.00	£88.50	£92.00
Member of a household:			
11 and over	£121.38	£124.90	£129.63
5 – 10	£92.34	£95.02	£98.62
Under 5	£80.61	£82.95	£86.09

Limits of weekly income

- 2.6. Although the States resolved in 2022 to remove the limit of weekly income for people living in the community, other limits of weekly income are applied on

an infrequent basis for people residing in residential homes, nursing homes, EMI (dementia care) accommodation, and the Guernsey Cheshire Home, who do not satisfy the five-year residence requirements for long-term care benefit, and may, therefore, need to rely on income support. The Committee proposes that these limits are increased by 6.8%, this being RPIX as at the year ending 30th June 2023.

- 2.7. The proposed 2024 limits of weekly income are set out in Table 3 below, shown alongside 2023 limits.

Table 3 – Income support limits of weekly income

	Limits from 6 th January 2023 to 10 th August 2023	Limits from 11 th August 2023	Proposed limits w.e.f. 5 th January 2024
Residential homes	£640.00	£659.00	£684.00
Nursing homes, EMI residents and Guernsey Cheshire Home	£920.00	£947.00	£983.00

Income support work requirement

- 2.8. Since 2014, it has been a requirement of eligibility for income support (named ‘supplementary benefit’ at that time) that the person claiming the benefit (if under pensionable age) and any relevant dependants³ of any claimant are in full-time remunerative work⁴, or are acting in compliance with ‘work requirements’. Work requirements are measures determined by the Administrator for the purpose of facilitating or enabling an individual to become, or continue to be, engaged in full-time remunerative work (e.g. attending regular work-focussed meetings with an Employment Advisor or attending a work or training placement).

³ “Relevant dependant” means a dependant who has not attained pensionable age, but who is over school leaving age and no longer in full-time education.

⁴ A person is engaged in full-time remunerative work if the person works for a minimum of 35 hours a week and is remunerated at a rate that is at least equal to the minimum wage. The Committee may by regulations prescribe modifications and exceptions to, and exemptions from, the eligibility criteria set out in section 1(1) of the [Income Support \(Guernsey\) Law, 1971](#), including the requirement to be in full-time remunerative work. Regulations 3 and 4 of the [Income Support \(Guernsey\) Regulations, 2014](#) prescribe deeming provisions which have the effect of prescribing, or providing for, the circumstances in which individuals are deemed to be in full-time remunerative work relating to them for the purposes of eligibility for income support.

- 2.9. At present, a single parent or the member of a couple that is primarily responsible for childcare must work part-time (a minimum of 20 hours per week) once their youngest child turns five.
- 2.10. The Committee is of the opinion that the current policy does not reflect a wider trend of parents returning to work before their youngest child commences primary school education. Although the Committee is of the view that it is a valid personal choice for parents to leave the workforce in order to fulfil childcare responsibilities, it does not consider it to be just and equitable that income support effectively provides a system of financial support that facilitates some eligible parents to leave the workforce for longer than the majority of working age parents who do not receive income support.
- 2.11. The Committee is, therefore, asking the States to note its intention to make Regulations reducing the point at which the part-time work requirement commences from when a person's youngest child turns five, to when they turn three. This change will be made with effect from 1st September 2024 in order to provide parents with adequate notice.
- 2.12. It is expected that this will increase workforce participation, and may lead to more children being engaged in pre-school education, or being engaged in pre-school education for a longer period, which carries several educational, developmental and social benefits.
- 2.13. It is anticipated that this will result in a small reduction in income support expenditure as some people return to work sooner than they might otherwise have done.

Carer's allowance disregard

- 2.14. When a person receives both carer's allowance and income support, the amount of carer's allowance that can be disregarded when calculating their entitlement to income support is referred to as the 'carer's allowance disregard'.
- 2.15. The disregard was set at a flat rate of £35.00 per week in July 2018, and was not increased again until 6th January 2023 when it was set at £40.00.
- 2.16. The carer's allowance disregard cannot be applied in conjunction with other income support disregards, such as the earnings disregard⁵.
- 2.17. At the States Meeting on 1st November 2022, Deputy St Pier laid two amendments⁶ to the Policy Letter entitled 'Non-Contributory Benefit Rates for

⁵ Also £40.00 per week.

⁶ [P.2022/91 Amendment 1.](#)
[P. 2022/91 Amendment 2.](#)

2023'⁷. The amendments, which were not successful, proposed that the rate of carer's allowance be increased by an amount greater than the Committee's original proposition⁸.

2.18. The Committee acknowledges that, in recent years, there have been calls to significantly increase the rate of carer's allowance. However, it is important to note that above-inflation increases to the rate of carer's allowance do not benefit low-income carers in receipt of income support because carer's allowance is not wholly disregarded in the calculation of income support.

2.19. The Committee is, therefore, of the opinion that a more effective way to target assistance to low-income carers is to increase the carer's allowance disregard alongside a RPIX increase to the rate of carer's allowance. It considers this to be in line with feedback received from the Policy & Resources Committee in its letter commenting on interim uprating proposals, dated 7th March 2023, which said:

‘The Policy & Resources Committee is concerned that many of the proposed uplifts are untargeted although you have stated the reason for the proposed uplift is that the unusually high levels of inflation are affecting the cost of living and most severely impacting the poorest households in the community. While we accept this argument in relation to income support, the Committee feels much of this very considerable expense will not reach low-income households, and in some cases will not benefit households at all.’⁹

2.20. The Committee proposes that the carer's allowance disregard be increased to £50 per week. It estimates that the annual cost of increasing the disregard by £10 per week to be in the region of £70,000. It is noted that unless the disregard is increased by at least an equivalent amount to the increase in the rate of the carer's allowance, carers that receive financial support through income support will not benefit from the increase in the rate of carer's allowance (although they would benefit from the increase in the income support requirement rate).

2.21. Administratively, the earnings disregard and the carer's allowance disregard are not distinguished in the benefits IT system as the carer's allowance is included as part of a person's weekly earnings under the income support legislation, meaning that increasing only the carer's disregard would require

⁷ Non-Contributory Benefit Rates for 2023 ([Billet d'État XIX of 2023, Article II](#)).

⁸ The Committee proposed, and the States agreed, to increase carer's allowance by 10% (3% more than the relevant rate of inflation) with effect from 6th January 2023.

⁹ This comment relates to proposals set out in the Committee's Policy Letter entitled 'Interim Uprating of Contributory and Non-contributory Benefit Rates' ([Billet d'État VI of 2023, Article V](#)). The Propositions in this Policy Letter were lost.

an IT change. The Committee is therefore seeking States support for this proposal before further progressing the necessary system changes.

Personal allowances

- 2.22. The Committee pays a personal allowance to residents of residential or nursing homes who qualify for income support. The personal allowance is intended to cover modest purchases such as newspapers, confectionery, toiletries, and family presents. As of 2nd September 2023, 157 people were claiming this allowance.
- 2.23. The Committee *for* Health & Social Care (HSC) pays for Guernsey and Alderney residents to be placed in UK hospitals and specialised institutions if their mental or physical health needs cannot be met on-Island. While HSC meets the cost of accommodation and care, residents are expected to pay for items of a personal nature from their own resources. Residents who cannot afford these items can apply to the Committee for a personal allowance. As of 2nd September 2023, there were 10 people in off-island placements claiming this allowance.
- 2.24. For 2024, the Committee is recommending that the rates for residents in Guernsey and Alderney residential or nursing homes and UK institutions be increased by 6.8%, in line with inflation for the year ending 30th June 2023.
- 2.25. The proposed 2024 weekly personal allowances are set out in Table 4 below, shown alongside 2023 limits.

Table 4 – Current and proposed weekly personal allowances

Personal allowance	Allowance from 6th January 2023 to 10th August 2023	Allowance from 11th August 2023 onwards	Proposed allowance w.e.f. 5th January 2024
Residents of local residential and nursing homes	£43.78	£45.05	£46.76
Guernsey people in UK hospitals and care homes	£61.89	£63.68	£66.10

Maximum rent allowances

- 2.26. The increase in a person’s requirement rate to allow for rental payments is known as a rent allowance. The level of financial support available for rent is capped by maximum rent allowances (MRAs) which are set at different levels for different sized households. The MRAs fully cover all social housing rents. It

is proposed that MRAs for 2024 are increased by 6.8%, this being RPIX for the year ending 30th June 2023.

- 2.27. The proposed MRAs for 2024 are set out in Table 5 below, alongside rates for 2023.

Table 5 – Current and proposed maximum rent allowances

Tenancy group	Description	MRAs from 6 th January 2023 to 10 th August 2023	MRAs from 11 th August 2023 onwards	Proposed MRAs from 5 th January 2024
Group 1	Single with no children	£256.14	£263.57	£273.56
Group 2	Couple with no children	£256.14	£263.57	£273.56
Group 3	Single or couple with 1 child	£297.53	£306.16	£317.76
Group 4	Single or couple with 2 children	£378.79	£389.77	£404.55
Group 5	Single or couple with 3+ children	£463.04	£476.47	£494.53
Group 6	Living in shared accommodation	£198.30	£204.05	£211.78

Winter fuel allowance for 2023/2024

- 2.28. A winter fuel allowance is paid from General Revenue to householders in receipt of income support for 26 weeks from the last week in October until the last week in April of the year following.
- 2.29. From 28th October 2022 to 28th April 2023 the supplementary fuel allowance was £37.06 per week. This was an increase of 23% on the previous winter's allowance, this being the percentage change in the cost of fuel, light and power in the year to June 2022.
- 2.30. The Committee is recommending a decrease of 2.1% in the fuel allowance, taking it to £36.28 per week for the period from 27th October 2023 to 25th April 2024. This is in line with the annual percentage change in the cost of fuel, light and power in the year to 30th June 2023¹⁰. Although this represents a reduction in the winter fuel allowance, the Committee notes that the increase applied in October 2022 was significant compared with previous years, largely as a result of the sanctions imposed on Russia because of the conflict in Ukraine. The proposed allowance for the period from 27th October 2023 to 25th April 2024 represents an increase of 20.4% when compared with

¹⁰ [Guernsey Inflation Bulletin June 2023.](#)

the winter fuel allowance payable from October 2021 to April 2022 (£30.13 per week).

- 2.31. It is estimated that the fuel allowance will cost approximately £2.2m over the 26-week payment period from 27th October 2023 to 25th April 2024.

3. School uniform allowance and educational maintenance grant

3.1. Since 2016, the Committee has administered the school uniform allowance. The threshold for eligibility is linked to the income support requirement rates. The parents (or guardians) of 1,083 pupils have received the allowance for the academic year commencing in September 2023. The amount received is dependent on household income. The maximum amount available for the current academic year is £395.86¹¹ for a pupil of Les Varendes High School, £367.85 for a pupil of the other High Schools and £241.73 for a primary school pupil.

3.2. Educational maintenance grants are provided to low-income families to encourage young people to remain in education beyond school leaving age. The grant is paid in respect of students who are 16 or 17 at the start of the academic year. The grant is made on a termly basis subject to good attendance. Financial eligibility is determined on the same basis as the uniform allowance. The full grant is £1,635.00 per annum, but the grant is also payable at reduced rates. At the time of writing, four applications for the 2023/24 academic year had been received.

3.3. The combined budget for providing these services is £200,000 for 2023. The budget for 2024 is £210,000.

4. Family Allowance

4.1. The Committee is recommending that the weekly rate of family allowance is increased by 6.8% from £15.80 to £16.90 per child per week, from 1st January 2024. Expenditure on family allowance in 2022 was £6.3m. It is estimated that expenditure on family allowance in 2023 will be £6.6m and the budget for 2024 is £7.1m.

4.2. The Committee recommends that the household income cap remains at £120,000 per annum in 2024. The cap was set at this amount from its

¹¹ In the past, the maximum amount available for pupils of the Grammar School was higher than for pupils of the other High Schools, to reflect higher uniform costs. The Committee has acknowledged that a replacement uniform has not been put in place for pupils of Les Varendes High School for the 2023/24 academic year. Any future changes to the school uniform requirements for pupils of Les Varendes High School will be reflected in the school uniform allowance administered by the Committee.

inception in January 2022 and has not increased in line with RPIX or median earnings since then. Had the income cap been increased in line with RPIX, its value would be in the region of £137,000¹² in 2024. Therefore, its value has decreased in real terms by approximately £17,000. While the level of the cap has decreased in real terms, nominal median earnings have been increasing. For example, nominal median earnings increased by 7.2% between the year ending 31st March 2022 and the year ending 31st March 2023¹³. As neither the increase in RPIX or median earnings has been reflected in the household income cap for family allowance, a number of people are likely to have been (or will be) made ineligible to receive family allowance who would otherwise have received it, resulting in a reduction in expenditure that would otherwise have been incurred.

5. Severe Disability Benefit and Carer’s Allowance

Rates and annual income limit

- 5.1. The Committee recommends that the rates of severe disability benefit and carer’s allowance, as well as the annual income limit for both severe disability benefit and carer’s allowance, be increased by 6.8% from 1st January 2024, as shown in Table 6 below.

Table 6 – Current and proposed annual income limit and weekly rates of severe disability benefit and carer’s allowance

	2023	2024
Severe disability benefit - weekly rate	£121.52	£129.78
Carer’s allowance - weekly rate	£101.09	£107.96
Annual income limit for both allowances	£113,400.00	£121,100.00

- 5.2. Actual benefit expenditure on severe disability benefit and carer’s allowance for 2020-2022 is shown in Table 7 overleaf. The expected outturn for these benefits for 2023 and the budget for 2024 is also set out.

¹² This figure has been calculated based on the uplifts applied to other non-contributory benefit rates and limits for 2023 (i.e. 7%) and 2024 (i.e. 6.8%).

¹³ [Guernsey Quarterly Population, Employment and Earnings Bulletin – Issue date 1st August 2023.](#)

Table 7 – Expenditure on severe disability benefit and carer’s allowance

	2020 Actual £m	2021 Actual £m	2022 Actual £m	2023 Forecast £m	2024 Budget £m
Severe Disability	4.4	4.8	5.1	5.6	6.3
Carer’s Allowance	2.3	2.5	2.6	3.0	3.2
Total Expenditure	6.7	7.3	7.7	8.6	9.5

6. Free TV licences

- 6.1. From 1st January 2020, the BBC has only issued free TV licences to residents in Guernsey and Alderney aged over 75 years in receipt of income support. Income support claimants aged between pension age and 75 continue to be eligible for a free TV licence funded by the Committee. The cost of this is anticipated to be approximately £7,000 in 2024.
- 6.2. Following a recommendation made by the Committee, and consultation with the relevant authorities in Alderney and Sark, the Policy & Resources Committee has sent a formal request for the Simple Payment Plan for TV licence fee payments to be extended to cover the entire Bailiwick.
- 6.3. Officers in the UK are continuing to work with the BBC to establish the process and timescale required for the extension of the Simple Payment Plan. It is understood that the BBC has highlighted a number of operational challenges, which continue to be addressed by officers at the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport at the time of writing.

7. Mesothelioma compensation scheme

- 7.1. The scheme provides a single payment to people living in Guernsey or Alderney who have been exposed to asbestos and developed diffuse mesothelioma. Other asbestos-related conditions are not covered by the scheme.
- 7.2. The Committee recommends that the awards are increased, with effect from 1st January 2024, by 6.8%, in line with RPIX as at the end of June 2023. The current rates of compensation and the proposed new rates for 2024 are set out in Table 10 in the Appendix to this Policy Letter.

8. Non-contributory services funded from General Revenue

- 8.1. This Policy Letter is about non-contributory benefit rates for 2024, so the financial position reported in this section relates only to Social Security

services and benefits funded from General Revenue, and not the additional General Revenue funded services that come under the Committee’s mandate.

- 8.2. Table 8 below summarises the anticipated impact of the proposed benefit rates on expenditure for 2024. This table also includes the 2023 revised forecast at the time of writing, and the actual expenditure figures for 2020 to 2022.

Table 8 – Summary of Social Security benefits expenditure funded from General Revenue

	2020 Actual £m	2021 Actual £m	2022 Actual £m	2023 Forecast £m	2024 Budget £m
Income support	46.9	46.5	46.3	51.4	55.2
Family allowance	8.5	8.6	6.3	6.6	7.1
Severe disability benefit & carer’s allowance	6.7	7.3	7.7	8.6	9.5
Diffuse mesothelioma	-	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Revenue grant to GIF	16.2	17.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sub-total formula led expenditure	78.3	80.2	60.3	66.6	71.8
School uniform allowance & educational maintenance grant	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Administration	2.2	2.0	1.4	2.0	2.0
Others ¹⁴	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Sub-total non-formula led expenditure	2.7	2.3	1.7	2.3	2.4
Total expenditure	81.0	82.5	62.0	68.9	74.2

Income support claim data

- 8.3. As at 19th August 2023, there were 3,142 active income support claims, as set out in Table 9 overleaf. These claims include 2,645 dependants, of which 2,168 are children, giving a total income support population of 5,787 people (5,244 people as at 20th August 2022).
- 8.4. Income support claimants were previously split into ten classifications by which they could be identified and managed in practice. An amendment to legislation in 2014 removed these classifications in Law, however, claims are still split into those categories for the purposes of claims management and financial analysis. The classifications are referred to in the analysis of claims and expenditure shown overleaf in Table 9.

¹⁴ Others include back to work schemes, charitable grants, and miscellaneous expenditure.

Table 9 – Income support claims and expenditure

Classification	Claims at 20th August 2022	Claims at 19th August 2023	2022 Actual (£m)	2023 Forecast (£m)	2024 Budget (£m)
Pensioner	913	915	7.5	8.2	8.9
Incapacitated	680	720	10	11.3	11.9
Jobseeker or low earner	618	513	10.2	10.3	11.1
Single parent	281	276	7.0	7.9	8.5
Disabled	208	212	2.9	3.2	3.5
Work requirement met	325	464	4.4	5.6	6.1
Other ¹⁵	39	42	0.7	0.9	0.8
Total (excl. dependants)	3,064	3,142	42.7	47.4	50.8
Special Grants ¹⁶			3.6	4.0	4.4
Total			46.3	51.4	55.2

8.5. It should be remembered that income support is a benefit designed to ensure a minimum acceptable standard of living, and that many of its recipients are in full or part-time work. However, these claimants do not earn enough for their household to enjoy a reasonable standard of living, which is why they receive a top-up from income support.

9. Compliance with Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure

9.1. Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees sets out the information which must be included in, or appended to, Propositions laid before the States.

9.2. The majority of the proposals in this Policy Letter are considered business as usual. In accordance with Rule 4(1)(a), the Committee confirms that Proposition 7 relates to the action ‘participation in work’ under strategic portfolio 3 of the Government Work Plan (‘grow economic competitiveness’).

9.3. In accordance with Rule 4(1)(b), it is confirmed that the Committee has consulted with the Policy & Resources Committee throughout the drafting of this Policy Letter. The Policy & Resources Committee has raised no concerns in respect of the Committee’s proposals.

9.4. In accordance with Rule 4(1)(c), the Propositions have been submitted to His Majesty’s Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.

¹⁵ Includes carer, pregnant, prisoner’s spouse, partner in hospital and a small number of claimants whose classification is unknown.

¹⁶ Includes special grants in respect of medical expenses, disability, funeral expenses and other miscellaneous expenses.

9.5. In accordance with Rule 4(1)(d), estimates of the financial implications to the States of carrying the proposals into effect are set out in Table 8 of this Policy Letter.

9.6. In this Policy Letter, the Committee has set out its proposals for non-contributory benefit rates for 2024. In accordance with Rule 4(2)(a), it is confirmed that the Propositions accord with the Committee's purpose:

"To foster a compassionate, cohesive and aspirational society in which responsibility is encouraged and individuals and families are supported through schemes of social protection relating to pensions, other contributory and non-contributory benefits, social housing, employment, re-employment and labour market legislation."

9.7. In accordance with Rule 4(2)(b), it is confirmed that the Propositions have the unanimous support of the Committee.

Yours faithfully

P J Roffey
President

H L de Sausmarez
Vice-President

T L Bury
S J Falla
J A B Gollop

M R Thompson
Non-States Member

R J Le Brun
Non-States Member

APPENDIX**Table 10 – Current and proposed payment tariffs for 2024 under the Mesothelioma Compensation Scheme**

Age of eligible person at date of diagnosis or date of death	2023		2024	
	Eligible person	Eligible relative	Eligible person	Eligible relative
<= 37	£103,714	£53,975	£110,767	£57,645
38	£101,698	£52,814	£108,613	£56,405
39	£99,687	£51,655	£106,466	£55,168
40	£97,673	£50,499	£104,315	£53,933
41	£95,657	£49,342	£102,162	£52,697
42	£93,644	£48,183	£100,012	£51,459
43	£92,640	£47,075	£98,940	£50,276
44	£91,626	£45,958	£97,857	£49,083
45	£90,624	£44,858	£96,786	£47,908
46	£89,616	£43,749	£95,710	£46,724
47	£88,609	£42,645	£94,634	£45,545
48	£85,795	£41,285	£91,629	£44,092
49	£82,974	£39,922	£88,616	£42,637
50	£80,152	£38,566	£85,602	£41,188
51	£77,335	£37,210	£82,594	£39,740
52	£74,508	£35,852	£79,575	£38,290
53	£72,497	£34,739	£77,427	£37,101
54	£70,485	£33,634	£75,278	£35,921
55	£68,476	£32,527	£73,132	£34,739
56	£66,452	£31,412	£70,971	£33,548
57	£64,440	£30,308	£68,822	£32,369
58	£59,205	£27,242	£63,231	£29,094
59	£53,968	£24,167	£57,638	£25,810
60	£48,739	£21,098	£52,053	£22,533
61	£43,500	£18,025	£46,458	£19,251
62	£38,265	£14,951	£40,867	£15,968
63	£35,040	£14,073	£37,423	£15,030
64	£31,816	£13,202	£33,979	£14,100
65	£28,599	£12,309	£30,544	£13,146
66	£25,375	£11,430	£27,101	£12,207
67(+)	£22,155	£8,937	£23,662	£9,545
68	£21,498		£22,960	
69	£20,839		£22,256	
70	£20,191		£21,564	

Age of eligible person at date of diagnosis or date of death	2023		2024	
	Eligible person	Eligible relative	Eligible person	Eligible relative
71	£19,537		£20,866	
72	£18,884		£20,168	
73	£18,327		£19,573	
74	£17,759		£18,967	
75	£17,216		£18,387	
76	£16,670		£17,804	
77+	£16,115		£17,211	