

Our ideas for assisted dying in Jersey

What do you think?



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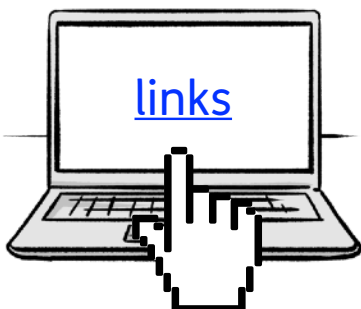


Contents

	Page
Introduction	3
Assisted dying	4
Who can get an assisted death	5
Assisted Dying Service	9
How assisted dying will work	12
Following the rules	15
What do you think?	17



In this Easy Read document, hard words are in **bold**. We explain what the word means in the sentence after it has been used.



Some words are [blue and underlined](#).

These are links that will go to another website which has more information.

Introduction

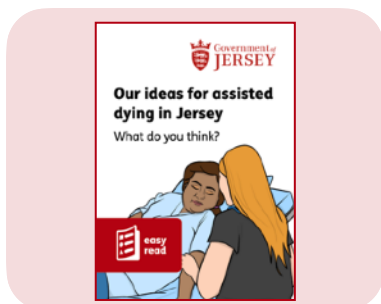


In November 2021, The Government of Jersey decided that **assisted dying** should be allowed.



Assisted dying is when a person chooses to end their life with the help of a doctor because:

- They have an illness which means they are going to die soon anyway.
- They are in too much pain to carry on living.

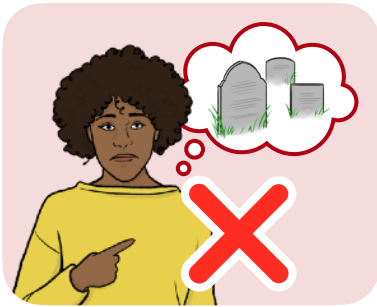


This information is about our ideas for an Assisted Dying Service in Jersey.



We want to know what you think about our ideas before 14 January 2023. You can find out how to do this on page 17.

Assisted dying



Assisted dying is not the same as choosing to take your own life.



Only some people will be allowed to have an assisted death.



The law will say which people can use the Assisted Dying Service.



It does not replace the support and care that people need, who are close to the end of their lives.



The Assisted Dying Service will give them more control over their death.

Who can get an assisted death

To have an assisted death, a person must:



1. Have a particular illness

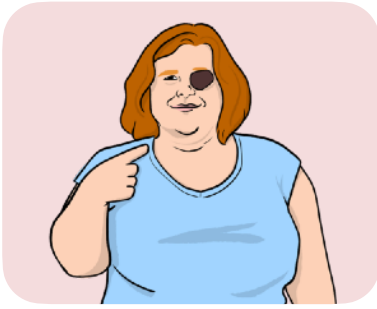
The person must have an illness that means:



- They will die within 6 months, or within 12 months for some illnesses.



- They are in too much pain to live.

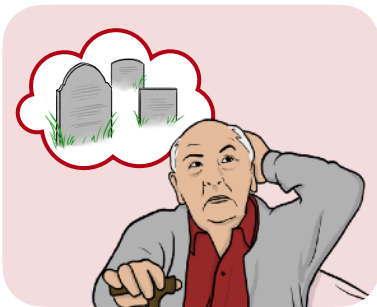


2. Be able to make decisions for themselves

This means the person can:



- Understand information given to them about assisted dying.



- Understand what will happen if they choose assisted dying.



- Let health professionals know what they want to do.

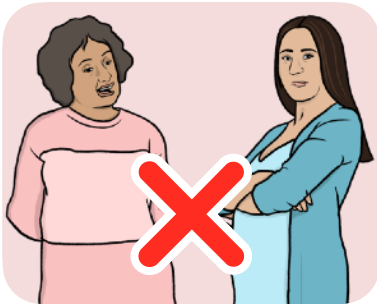


We will assume someone can make decisions for themselves unless there is a reason to think they can't.



3. Want an assisted death

The person must want an assisted death.



It must not be that they have been told to have an assisted death by another person, like a family member.



The person must let health professionals know what they want to do.

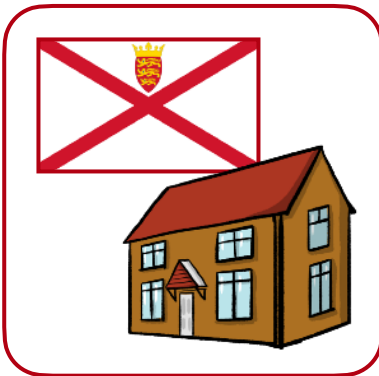


The person must understand their health and what assisted dying means.



4. Be at least 18 years old

The person must be over 18 years old to be able to have an assisted death.

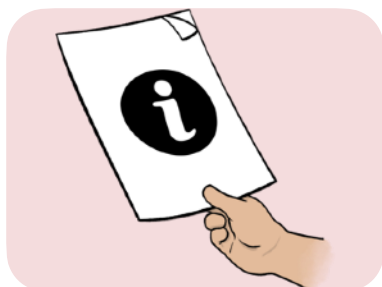


5. Live in Jersey

The person must have been living in Jersey for at least 12 months before they can ask for an assisted death.

Assisted Dying Service

The Assisted Dying Service in Jersey will:



- Give people information about assisted dying.



- Support people who are having an assisted death.



- Support the loved ones of people who are having an assisted death.



- Work with the health professionals who assist people to die.



- Be a free service for people to use.



A group will check that the Assisted Dying Service is working as it should.

Health professionals



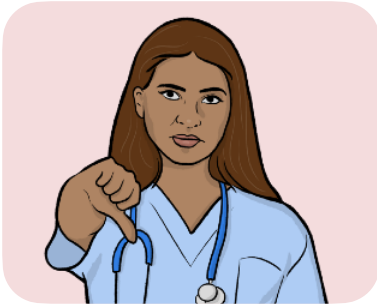
Health professionals can choose to work in the Assisted Dying Service.



There will be doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other staff.



The law says that no health professional can be made to give someone an assisted death if they do not want to.



If a health professional does not want to be involved in giving someone an assisted death, they must not:



- Treat patients unfairly.
- Stop patients from getting the right health services.
- Upset patients.

How assisted dying will work

There will be 9 steps to the Assisted Dying Service:



1. A person will **ask** for an assisted death.



2. A health professional, called the **Co-ordinating Doctor**, will **decide** whether the person can have an assisted death.



3. A second health professional, called an **Independent Assessment Doctor**, will **look into the decision** to make sure it is right.



4. The person must then make an **official request**.
This means the person must ask for an assisted death in writing, and sign it to show it is true.



5. The person's request must be **approved by the Co-ordinating Doctor**.



In cases where the person is in too much pain to live, the final decision will be made by an independent group called a 'tribunal'.



6. If the person's request is approved, they will be supported to **plan and prepare** for their assisted death.



7. A decision will be made about **what medicine is going to be used** to help the person die.



8. The **assisted death** will take place.



9. Arrangements will be made **after the person has died**, including a report by the health professionals involved in the assisted death.



The person asking for an assisted death is in control and can stop at any time.



To make sure the person has enough time to change their minds we will say that:



- If the person is going to die soon from an illness, the 9 steps will take at least 14 days.



- If the person is in too much pain to live, the 9 steps will take at least 90 days.

Following the rules

The Assisted Dying Service in Jersey must:



- Follow the law.



- Protect people who might be told to do something they don't want to do.



- Work safely with the medicines that are used to help people die.



- Support people and their families.



- Be well organised and easy to use.



The Jersey Assisted Dying Service will be checked on by the **Jersey Care Commission**.

The Jersey Care Commission is an organisation that checks health services in Jersey.

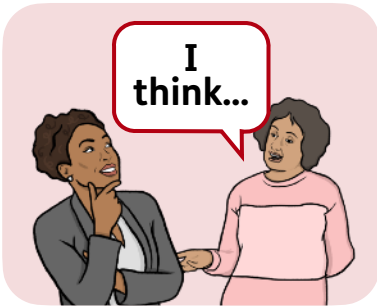


They will check the Assisted Dying Service at least once a year.



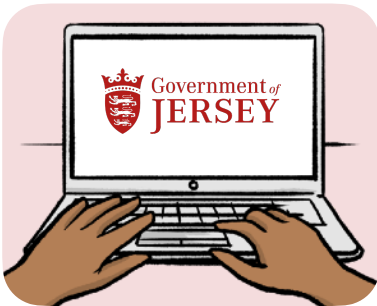
They will write a yearly report on assisted dying.

What do you think?



You can tell us what you think about our ideas for an Assisted Dying Service until 14 January 2023.

You can tell us what you think by:



- Answering some questions online at:

www.gov.je/assisteddying



- Coming to a meeting.



- Emailing us at:
assisteddying@gov.je



You can find out more at:

www.gov.je/assisteddying



We will look at what you say and write a report in early 2023.



We will start making the new laws for assisted dying in 2024.



We are aiming to start the Assisted Dying Service at the end of 2025.

This Easy Read information has been produced by easy-read-online.co.uk