# Social Security Department – Strategic Aims and Business Plan 2017



## Our strategic aims

- > to help people to achieve and maintain financial independence;
- > to provide well-targeted social benefits and support to those unable to fully support themselves;
- > to deliver excellent customer services.

## **Business Plan 2017**

## **Financial independence**

Our responsibilities:

- A compulsory, contributory Social Security Insurance Scheme that receives contributions from employers, employees and general tax revenues. The scheme provides old age pensions and a range of working age benefits;
- Back to Work services which provide targeted support to help people to obtain and maintain employment;
- > Discrimination legislation, which protects people from unfair or unequal treatment;
- Employment legislation, which sets out minimum standards for good employment relations and protection in the workplace;
- Health and Safety at work legislation, as well as the Health and Safety Inspectorate, to protect people in the workplace and others affected by working activities.

### Projects for 2017:

- > Continue work on the major review of Social Security Fund sustainability;
- Undertake a review of Family Friendly employment legislation and consider options for extending the law;
- Seek approval for, and implement, revised Health and Safety regulations for the use of freight containers;
- Develop a strategy and implement pilot projects to support customers' movement towards financial independence;
- Undertake preparatory research to support the development of disability discrimination regulations.

## **Social benefits**

Our responsibilities:

- > Non-contributory means-tested benefits including Income Support;
- A compulsory, contributory Health Insurance Fund (HIF) that receives contributions from employers and employees. The HIF supports the costs of GP visits and prescription drugs;
- A compulsory, contributory Long Term Care scheme that receives contributions and provides a range of benefits for adults with long-term care needs.

- > Fully implement and promote the Pension Plus scheme;
- Extend the Income Support scheme to include financial support for lower level care packages provided to claimants living in their own homes;
- Review options available to extend support for low income groups with primary health care costs and agree timetable for implementation;
- Take actions as required in respect of the proposed BBC funding arrangements for the over-75 TV Licence scheme.

## **Customer Service**

#### *Our responsibilities:*

- > Provision of advice and guidance on benefits and contributions;
- Administration of the Names and Addresses Register and the registration of individuals and businesses under the Control of Housing and Work Law.

#### Projects for 2017:

- Continue ongoing work to develop online access to our services, supporting eGov and related Public Sector Reform initiatives;
- Continue the implementation of our customer service excellence and improved communications programme;
- Complete the first phase of work to enhance our capabilities to manage and analyse customer data;
- Initiate planning for the replacement of the department's benefits administration and payment system.

## **States of Jersey Corporate Initiatives**

#### Our responsibilities:

- > Delivery of agreed savings under the Medium-Term Financial Plan for 2016-19 (MTFP2);
- Contribution to the development and implementation of States-wide strategies, Public Sector Reform, or other initiatives as required.

#### Projects for 2017:

- Support and implement a programme of customer-focussed and waste-reducing Lean initiatives;
- Design and deliver initiatives to ensure the delivery of savings under the 2016-19 Medium Term Financial Plan;
- Support the implementation of the HSS Primary care strategy and continue to develop new services with primary healthcare provider groups;
- > Continue to support Work Force Modernisation and Public Sector Reform initiatives;
- Support the Taxes office in the procurement and implementation of a cross-departmental revenue system.