

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

26th September, 2018

Proposition P.2018/71

Committee for Employment & Social Security

Minor Amendments to Social Security Legislation

AMENDMENT

Proposed by: Deputy M K Le Clerc
Seconded by: Deputy S L Langlois

1. Amend proposition 1 as follows:

- (a) re-letter subparagraph b as subparagraph c, and
- (b) immediately before subparagraph c, insert the following subparagraph -
 - "b. to ensure that, while pensionable age increases incrementally from 65 to 70 between 2020 and 2049, the relevant period in the calculation of entitlement to survivor's benefit and death grant shall not exceed 45 years;"

Explanatory note

Survivor's benefit (bereavement payment, widowed parent's allowance and bereavement allowance) and death grant are benefits which are payable based on a long-term contribution record, which is calculated in a similar way as for old age pension. Unless a change is made to the law, people will have to pay contributions for a longer period as the State pension age rises in order to remain eligible for full-rate benefits.

The Committee does not believe this is appropriate, and its policy letter therefore contains a proposal to fix the contribution average period at a maximum of 45 years for old age pension. However, the original proposition did not include survivor's benefit and death grant, and this amendment corrects that omission.