



# GPI POLICY - SOCIAL PROTECTION

## **Rational**

The Government of Pitcairn Islands and the Pitcairn Public Service are committed to ensuring that those who may be vulnerable on Pitcairn are supported when in need and that mechanisms are in place to prevent people from falling on hard times i.e. not being able to meet their 'needs' to put food on the table, to keep a roof over their heads, access healthcare or manage financially.

## **Purpose**

This policy steps-out the procedures involved in managing and actioning requests for support and assistance, from the GPI, on a case-by-case basis. There are a number of options available to the GPI when providing Social Support. Social support is not limited to only financial support all of which can be discussed on application.

## **General Guidelines**

1. A request for Social Support will require submission of a Social Support Request (SSR) form in the first instance (see Annex 1).
2. The SSR form will be available from the office of the DM Community Services.
3. A Social Support applicant must submit their completed form to the DM Community Services who will provide the applicant with a copy of the form and a dated receipt of submission.
4. The DM Community Services will advise the applicant that their request will be responded to within 5 working days and provide the applicant with a copy of this Policy.
5. The DM Community Services will advise the applicant they are welcome to have a support person attend any future meetings.
6. Receipt of completed SSR form will trigger a Social Support Group (SSG) meeting within 3 working days.
7. The SSG will consist of the DM Community Services, the Administrator and the Family & Communitary Advisor.
8. On receipt of a completed SSR form the SSG will conduct an open book review of the applicant's financial position. This may include input from the Pitcairn Islands Office, and Government Treasury.
9. The SSG will review the application and the applicant's over-all financial position and set a time to meet with the applicant (if needed) and/or agree on the type and level of support required.

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10. The SSG will collaborate on how the proposed support will be implemented, measured and will set review dates.
11. Based on financial evidence the SSG may also decline a Social Support Request.
12. The DM Community Services/FCA will keep confidential records, available to the applicant, regarding decisions, support provision, outcomes and review periods.
13. The GPI Council is responsible for ensuring this policy is accessible to the normally resident Pitcairn Island community.