

MC/SC/113

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

(101st Meeting)

28th March 2018**PART A (Non-exempt)**

All members were present, with the exception of Deputy K.L. Moore of St. Peter, Minister for Home Affairs, Senator A.K.F. Green, M.B.E, Minister for Health and Social Services and Senator A.J.H. Maclean, Minister for Treasury and Resources, from whom apologies had been received.

Senator I.J. Gorst, Chief Minister  
 Senator L.J. Farnham, Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture  
 Deputy S.G. Luce of St. Martin, Minister for the Environment  
 Senator Sir P.M. Bailhache, Minister for External Relations  
 Deputy A.E. Pryke of Trinity, Minister for Housing and Assistant Minister for Education  
 Deputy E.J. Noel of St. Lawrence, Minister for Infrastructure  
 Deputy S.J. Pinel of St. Clement, Minister for Social Security  
 Connétable J.M. Refault of St. Peter, Assistant Minister for Treasury and Resources and Assistant Minister for Health and Social Services

In attendance -

Senator P.F. Routier, M.B.E., Assistant to the Chief Minister  
 Deputy S.M. Wickenden of St. Helier, Assistant to the Chief Minister  
 C. Parker, Chief Executive, States of Jersey  
 R. Bell, Treasurer of the States  
 Dr. M. Egan, Greffier of the States  
 R.J. MacRae, Q.C., H.M. Attorney General (not present for item B1)  
 P. Bradbury, Director - Corporate Policy, Chief Minister's Department  
 R. Summersgill, Comptroller of Taxes (for item B1 only)  
 A. Rogers, Director of Financial Planning and Performance, Treasury and Resources Department (for item B2 only)  
 M. Clark, Clerk to the Council of Ministers

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A and Part B.

States  
 Business  
 09.04.18  
 1240/7/1(1)

A1. The Council, with reference to its Minute No. A3 of 14th March 2018, discussed with the Director, Corporate Policy, Chief Minister's Department, the list of public business scheduled for consideration by the States Assembly on 20th March 2018 and commented specifically on the following:

**Future Hospital: Review of proposed site location and costs (P.33/2018)**

The Council noted that Connétable C.H. Taylor of St. John sought the agreement of the Assembly to:

(a) request the Chief Minister, in consultation with the Minister for the Environment and the Minister for Treasury and Resources, to appoint an independent team of advisers, including a Planning Inspector, to –

(i) conduct a review of the proposed site location for the new General Hospital in the light of the decision to refuse planning permission, including identifying any additional information now required for this purpose;

(ii) report by 1st September 2018 on the suitability of the proposed site location, given the new circumstances which have arisen because of the refusal of planning permission, in comparison to:

(A) a site on the Waterfront, including the Esplanade;

(B) St. Saviour's Hospital;

(C) the Overdale Hospital site;

(D) land at Warwick Farm; and

(E) any other sites considered by the independent team to be suitable; and

(iii) report by 1st September 2018 on the estimated cost and timescale for the development of a new General Hospital on each site set out in paragraph (a)(ii);

(b) request the relevant Ministers not to enter into any new contractual and financial commitments and contracts for or in consequence of the proposed development on the proposed site location agreed on 1st December 2016 until the report by the independent team of advisers has been presented to the States; and

(c) request the Minister for Treasury and Resources to present a report to the States detailing the costs so far incurred by the Future Hospital project and any contracts currently signed.

The Council recognised that, if adopted, the proposition would effectively overturn P.110/2016, 'Future Hospital: preferred site' which had been agreed by the States Assembly on 1st December 2016. Notwithstanding the delays which would occur should further evaluation of previously rejected sites be required, the Council considered that the information sought in the proposition was already available and the rationale for rejecting the 4 sites mentioned was already in the public domain.

The Council acknowledged that the outline planning permission had been rejected by the Minister for the Environment on the recommendation of the Planning Inspector, however recalled that the Inspector had not rejected the proposed location, but had been unsupportive of the size and mass of the building proposed. The Council therefore agreed that the current strategy of the Health and Social Services Department, to submit a revised planning application which took account of and sought to remedy the Inspector's concerns, was the correct one.

The Council concluded that adopting the proposition risked serious delays and could potentially add several millions of pounds to the project cost. The Council accordingly decided that it should not be supported and directed that an appropriate comment on P.33/2018, which reiterated the reasons for selecting the chosen site for the future Hospital and sought to allay the concerns expressed by the proposer, should be presented to the States Assembly at the earliest opportunity.