

Fourteen Reasons Why the Revised Plans for Jersey's Future Hospital (JFH) will not Work

- 1. The current plans do not meet the States requirement from 2012:** that a new hospital should be on a single site that accommodates all the facilities currently provided by the General Hospital. The current plans will be on 6 sites; will cost too much; does not put patients as the top priority; will take too long to build; has no room for expansion and are not liked by the clinicians who will work there.
- 2. Site Selection:** the 'Ministerial Advisory Group' skewed the overall site selection process in favour of the Gloucester Street site without any explanation in the Outline Business Case (OBC) of October 2018 by removing the two green field sites in States ownership (Warwick Farm and St Saviour's Hospital) from the shortlisted sites.
- 3. Cost:** The cost is budgeted at £466 million. In April 2015 Gleeds assessed the cost at £626 million. The Care Inquiry was budgeted at £6 million with an outturn of £23 million. Will the ultimate cost of the new hospital be any different?
- 4. Paying for the JFH:** Meanwhile, taken together with the Andium bond for new public housing, the annual interest payments will be £16 million for over 40 years. The OBC estimates the total cost of this bond as £626 bringing the full cost of the JFH to over £1 billion.
- 5. Lack of Professional Consultation:** There has been strong pressure on clinicians and nursing staff not to express doubts about the 'preferred site', but the unanimous view expressed in informal contacts is consistently against the present plans. A confidential vote by the clinicians should form an element in making a final judgement on the site.
- 6. The Site is too small:** Trying to squeeze a quart into a pint pot will not work. It is impossible to put all the existing facilities and departments into a smaller site, which is compromised by Planning height restrictions in St Helier. As a consequence the revised plans have multiple treatment floors rather than a single 20,000-m² ground floor, as specified in the 2012 brief, with existing Departments made smaller to fit the site, rather than the clinical need.
- 7. There is no Room for Future Expansion:** The site is constrained by the four roads within which it sits. Hoping that future advances in medical technology and practice will allow expansion and new facilities is naïve. Between 1950 and 1987 the Nurses Home (now Sir Peter Crill House) Gwyneth Huelin and 1980's blocks were built in order to accommodate necessary expansion as medical advances and the population grew. Why would that requirement not be replicated in the 60-year life of the new JFH?

8. **Parking:** The plan calls for Patriotic Street car park to be for the exclusive use of the JFH. Patients arriving for treatment are to be asked to park at the level required for their treatment resulting in chaos as patients and visitors wait for a space to become free to park at their treatment or visiting floor resulting in gridlock as cars arrive and leave. Meanwhile business parking will be confined to the yet to be funded underground parking on the Esplanade.
9. **Time to Build:** The estimated time to build the new hospital in April 2015 was 11 years and 4 months. In the OBC of October 2017 the same building, offering the same facilities, is estimated to take 6 years to build with a further 2 years to demolish the 1960's and 1980's buildings. This is a 'miraculous' reduction, but is it credible?
10. **Poor Planning:** The departmental plans for the new hospital have not been planned using activity data. Thus, for example, there is no real provision for haematology and the plans for both oncology and renal are not fit for purpose due to the space restrictions of the constrained site resulting in less room in the JFH Plans than their existing departmental spaces.
11. **No Nurses Accommodation:** The current plans remove 94 units of nurses' accommodation in St Helier and 30 units at St Saviour's Hospital site to be 'replaced' by Andium Homes, which has an acknowledged shortage of over 300 homes. The existing General Hospital is already under staffed in most clinical areas with nurses in existing accommodation being given 6-month notices to move and incoming nurses being told to find their own accommodation without any compensation for the cost of rented accommodation in Jersey. Unsurprisingly nurses are already leaving due to the cost of accommodation.
12. **No Room for Additional Facilities:** There is no room for the addition of radiation treatment, or for developing research facilities, despite interest from outside the island due to its population size and diversity.
13. **Recovery Areas:** There are no green areas in the proposed revised plans to aid healing recovery, simply because there is no room for this on the site, particularly now that Planning has insisted on a second entrance to the new hospital from The Parade.
14. **Traffic:** It is proposed to close one lane of Gloucester Street during the up to 11-year demolition and build programme. This will result in an increase in the volume of traffic in the west of St Heller, more traffic jams and an increased time for ambulances to access the existing A&E Department