



Policy & Resources Committee

Response to a Question Pursuant to Rule 14 of The Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees

Subject: Our Hospital Modernisation – Phase 2

States' Member: Deputy G A St Pier

Date received: 1st May 2024

Date acknowledged: 1st May 2024

Date of reply: 15th May 2024

Preamble

In the States of Deliberation on 20th March, the President of the Committee for Health & Social Care responding to Rule 11 questions in relation to Phase 2 of the Our Hospital Modernisation programme said:

- *“Some members of the Programme Management team received updated estimates in February 2023, based on more detailed designs than had been used for the previous cost estimates that had informed the Outline Business Case.”*
- *“While the Committee had received an initial briefing on 19th December 2023, it understood that further work was going to be completed to better understand the accuracy of the potential revised cost estimates.”*
- *“The Committee met with the Policy & Resources Committee formally on 27th February 2024 and papers for this meeting, which included an update on Phase 2, were circulated on 23rd February 2024. Officer discussions had taken place and were ongoing at the most senior level in the States, and further information was being sought to better understand the extent of the potential issue. This was taking place in late autumn, prior to the Committee being informed in December 2023.”.*

Questions and Responses

1. **In addition to the initial delay between February 2023 and December 2023 in the HSC Committee being informed, there appears to have been a further substantial two month delay between HSC Committee being advised of the issue and the P&R Committee being so advised. On what date were officers within Policy & Resources (e.g. treasury, capital portfolio functions) first advised of the potential issue?**

A limited number of senior officers were made aware of the potential cost challenges during November and December 2023. Initially, this was highlighted

informally through line management channels as a risk, acknowledging that further work was being undertaken to better understand whether there was in fact a material challenge beyond price fluctuations which are to be expected throughout the programme cycle. As the work matured, more formal briefings took place at the very end of January 2024.

2. At the time of the Government Work Plan debate in January 2024 were any officers advising the Committee privy to any information to suggest that there might be significant cost pressures regarding Phase 2 of the Our Hospital Modernisation Programme?

In line with the answer for Question One, a limited number of senior officers who advise P&R were aware of the potential cost challenges and the associated ongoing work. Some of these same officers were advising the Committee on its preparations for the GWP debate.

For the avoidance of doubt, the Policy & Resources Committee was first advised on 13th February 2024.

- 3. How many individuals from the Programme Management team had their employment terminated as a result of this issue?**
- 4. Did any of the individuals whose employment was terminated leave with termination payments in excess of any contractual payment in lieu of notice?**
- 5. Were any contracted staff or consultants involved?**

A single response is provided for questions 3 to 5.

The Committee *for* Health & Social Care has previously made clear that the individuals involved are no longer in the employment of the States of Guernsey. The circumstances surrounding their departure are private to the States of Guernsey and those individuals and therefore, in accordance with established practice, no further details may be given.

The Committee would however reiterate previous comments made by the Head of the Public Service that the conduct of a limited number of officers fell significantly short of required standards and would stress that appropriate policies and procedures are in place to deal with matters of this kind.