

**FRIENDS OF OUR NEW HOSPITAL**  
**P O Box 442**  
**Jersey JE4 5RE**

A Non-Profit Organisation NPO1277  
Email: [Friends@ournewhospital.org.je](mailto:Friends@ournewhospital.org.je)

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*Release Begins*

**“NEW HOSPITAL PROJECT – GOVERNMENT FAILURE”**

After nine years and some £75million in expenditure on consultants, experts and contract civil servants our Government has introduced two major propositions that will affect the Island’s health care for decades to come.

First up is the Jersey Care Model (JCM) P.114/2020, due to be debated by the Assembly next Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The 493 page submission is little more than a series of fanciful aspirations and fictional savings, to be delivered over 16 years. The proposition calls for £28.1 million to be appropriated from the Health Insurance Fund greatly reducing the Fund’s ability to finance long term care. The JCM will result in a hospital with less on-site facilities than we now enjoy and less beds per head of population than most countries in the western world.

Bruce Willing, Chair of the Friends said:

“The JCM is a great concern to all Islanders. The Health & Security Services Scrutiny Panel has just reported on the JCM, raising serious concerns about the inadequacies of the Model and the lack of consultation. The JCM will put the role of the Island’s GPs at risk and they have expressed their doubts. The recruitment of scarce health workers is ill-defined and the financial projections are incomplete. The Scrutiny Panel has made 60 findings and 21 recommendations to modify the JCM. We urge the States Assembly to vote to withdraw the Proposition until these concerns are met and the fundamental principles of good health care delivery are addressed. We want a viable health service with costed deliverables, not a fanciful experiment with imaginary savings.”

Next, on 17 November the Assembly will be asked to approve the Our Hospital Site Selection P.123/2020. The Proposition calls for Overdale to be approved as the site for the new Hospital along with a budget of over £800 million. The new hospital is set to be the biggest infrastructure project since the building of the Victoria and Albert piers in the 19th century. The public has not been consulted or asked to comment on these critical Hospital Propositions. The Assembly’s Scrutiny Panels have had little or no time to report and Assembly members outside the Council of Ministers have been kept in the dark.

Bruce Willing went on to say:

“In a clever act of subversion, the Government of Jersey has ensured that The Design Brief for the New Hospital will not be revealed until the JCM and the Overdale Site have been accepted by the States Assembly. This is not just a case of inadvertently putting the cart before the horse; it’s a full-blown assault on our democracy. Government is not doing its job properly. It needs to start now before we ruin our health service and descend into a real fiscal mess.”

*Release ends*

**Friends of Our New Hospital**

Our objective is to create and sustain a public campaign to assist Our Government in accelerating the completion of the new hospital. We will make every effort to mobilize public opinion and to lobby Our Government to ensure progress is made as soon as possible

**For further Information please contact:**

Bruce Willing CBE, Chair  
Email: [bruce.willing@yahoo.com](mailto:bruce.willing@yahoo.com)  
Mobile: +44 77 977 12481

Peter C Funk  
Email: [peter.funk@ournewhospital.org.je](mailto:peter.funk@ournewhospital.org.je)  
Mobile: +44 77977 32819