



BLAKELEY
LEGAL

Ref: BLA.1-004-00153810-OB

15th November 2020

Dear Member

**P2020/123 - Our Hospital Site Selction:Overdale (the 'Proposition')
Why Members should not vote in favour**

I am writing to express my serious concerns about the Proposition. In the attached document, in bullet form, I have listed (some only) of the numerous reasons why voting in favour of the Proposition would be a grave error.

I am a resident of Westmount but my objections to the Proposition are *not* entirely driven by my close physical proximity to Overdale. The location of my home was simply the *cause* of my becoming involved in the issue: it was the *reason* my attention was drawn to the matter. Of course, there is a significant chance a development of the size proposed would negatively affect the enjoyment of my home but I wish to make very clear it is not this which is the motivating factor in my writing to you. My motivating factor is because I consider the Proposition to be misguided and, if passed, will prejudice the public of the Island.

I have read the detailed reports which have been produced ahead of the Proposition. They are voluminous and detailed. However, if you have had the time to read them yourself you will already be aware the reports are woefully lacking in the correct detail. Furthermore, much of the information and data that *is* useful only goes to demonstrate Overdale is the wrong location for a hospital of this magnitude.

I had hoped to correspond with you earlier but I wished to wait so I could attend a second public meeting which was held at the Town Hall on Thursday 12th November 2020. While waiting to write to you I have now also seen the report of 13th November 2020 which reviews the selection process and has resulted in the amendment to the Proposition¹.

I have limited the detail in the attached document to make reading easier. This does not mean the points made are without substance: they can all be properly supported. The brevity of the document is simply to ease understanding and to demonstrate as clearly as

¹ Lodged au Greffe 13th November 2020

possible why, as a Member, owing a duty to your electorate, you should not vote in favour of the Proposition.

I consider there is a real danger your member colleagues may vote in favour of the Proposition because the issue of selecting the location of the new hospital has been going on for too long and the public want to see the matter resolved. In short, people are getting 'fed up'. That is entirely reasonable. It is also entirely understandable. However, I suspect the vast majority of the public has not actually read the reports, has not digested the detail and probably considers one location over another is simply personal preferences and no more. Unfortunately, the public of the Island will be horribly prejudiced should you vote in favour of the Proposition even if they are currently unaware of the negative and long lasting effects the Proposition will have upon them.

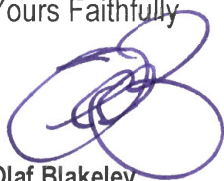
The development of the new hospital should be seen as a chance to produce something first class, that will serve the public for scores of years and do so with economic responsibility. The Proposition can never achieve that objective.

Even at high level, it is obvious Overdale is the wrong location. That should be enough for Members to vote against the Proposition. Pressure and public fatigue concerning the issue of selecting a site should not influence your decision to vote for the Proposition. You should only vote in favour of the Proposition if you really believe Overdale is the correct site. You can only really believe it is the correct site if you have all the relevant information and have considered that information and properly assessed it and then considered other rejected sites. That methodical approach is currently impossible because the Proposition and the various reports are void of the information you require to be properly informed and therefore be able to exercise your vote responsibly.

In short: even with only the most cursory reflection you *know* you cannot vote in favour of the Proposition because you know that to do so you will be thereby confirming the information with which you have been provided you have thoroughly considered which has resulted in you obtaining the assurances and data you require to vote responsibly. You know that is impossible because the information which you require has not been provided to you and is not available.

I strongly urge you do not vote in Favour of the Proposition.

Yours Faithfully



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