

Dear Scrutiny

It is with heavy heart that I feel the need to write to you to voice my disappointment with the considerations that are presently being made in relation to our beautiful Peoples Park and the Westmount Road areas.

The plans that have been shared so far to improve access to Overdale are nothing short of vandalism and needless destruction of these important historic and precious green areas.

Even though I am not a planner I can see that there are other options that could be seriously considered for the provision of easier access to Overdale that would cause far less impact to the environment, and wildlife, as well as being a lot less costly to the States than building these huge new roads and have to compulsorily purchase necessary land from landowners. For example, how about changing the traffic flows to one way systems? How about the previously suggested road through the George V homes from the inner road? How about a road from the car park at the old Inn on the Park site up to join the bend after the Bowling Green on Westmount Road?

It seems to me that Warwick Farm would have made a far better site for the new hospital, it makes way more sense given its position and that it would be a blank canvas, where no additional funding would be required to build large new roads or purchase surrounding properties. In fact the only spending would be to pay a surrender penalty to break the Hemp Farm's lease, plus legal expenses, which would surely be a lot less costly than the proposed carving up of the land around the Park, Westmount Road and the other areas in the vicinity of Overdale. Lease surrenders happen all the time, surely the States must've have weighed up the pros and cons of this option and compared costings??

At a time where our open spaces are so very important to us, and when there is so much concern for the environment, it is hard to stomach that our own government can seriously consider these access plans for Overdale necessary? Such huge roads, at the expense of carving up the Peoples Park, Westmount Road and surrounding areas, and at what cost??

It is imperative that additional time is taken to seriously consider other options, this is all moving along way too quickly without much care and thought seemingly being invested.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours faithfully

Julia Boschat
1 Park Place
Westmount Road
St Helier