

2020.09.08

**22 Senator K.L. Moore of the Assistant Chief Minister regarding the cost of Our Hospital project: (OQ.232/2020)**

What is the estimated price per square metre for the new hospital envisaged in the Our Hospital Project?

**Senator L.J. Farnham (Assistant Chief Minister):**

As the Senator may know, there is a pre-construction period in the development of the cost of the hospital. During this time, we will be in the process of constant work and negotiation with the delivery partner to secure the absolute best value of money for the build of the hospital. If we were to start publicly quoting figures during this period, this could lend weight to the delivery partner working towards that sum as a target, which is something that we want to avoid, in the interest of delivering best value on the project. Clearly it would not be in the best interest of Islanders at this stage to do so, which I am sure the Senator will appreciate. However, we have already given a confidential briefing to the Scrutiny Panel and we will continue to share this information with Scrutiny on a confidential basis as we move through the process.

**4.22.1 Senator K.L. Moore:**

How is the Deputy Chief Minister and his team keeping an overview of the cost of the Our Hospital Project and the potential for it to exceed the sum of £467 million, which was so poorly received at the last elections for the previous hospital project?

**Senator L.J. Farnham:**

I am not going to comment on the overall envelope of the total project at this stage, for the reasons I have just mentioned. The hospital oversight group is receiving regular updates on finances and negotiations from the officer team. When we get to the stage, and as I have said, to reiterate, we will be continuing to share this with Scrutiny, as we move forward. As soon as possible, as soon as negotiations reach their conclusions, we will then come for further political approval, through the Council of Ministers and ultimately to the States Assembly.