

22.12.12

5 Deputy L.J. Farnham of the Minister for Infrastructure regarding the Our Hospital Project (OQ.128/2022)

Will the Minister advise how many States Members and officials participated in the visit to hospitals in Northern Ireland and the total length of their stay, as referenced in appendix 2 of *A Review of the Our Hospital Project*?

Deputy T. Binet of St. Saviour (The Minister for Infrastructure):

I was accompanied by 3 officials on the visit to Northern Ireland, which covered 3 nights and 3 working days. The delegation consisted of the acting project director, the associate managing director for Health and Community Services, the medical director for Health and Community Services and me.

4.5.1 Deputy L.J. Farnham:

Can I thank the Minister and say that is a very appropriate team to do this visit? Does the Minister agree that delivering good healthcare is not just about the fabric of a building? It is not just about how a hospital is built? Appendix 2 of the report, which relates to the visit to Northern Ireland, lists 18 good objectives for the visit. Some about the build and the hospital and layout but many objectives relate to how a delivery of a health service correlates with the design and build of a hospital. Would the Minister agree that that is important and essential in designing and developing any future healthcare model for Jersey?

Deputy T. Binet:

I am very happy to agree to both of those statements.

4.5.2 Deputy S.Y. Mézec:

Does the Minister consider the N.H.S. (National Health Service) in Northern Ireland to be in a state which Jersey should seek to emulate, and did the Minister give any consideration to visits to other jurisdictions which have more successful health services?

Deputy T. Binet:

I think it is fair to say that the review does not seek to emulate anybody's particular health service, and that certainly was not the purpose of going to Northern Ireland. The purpose of going to Northern Ireland was to see some relatively new facilities - 4 in total - all of which had been built in the last 10 years and all of which ... perhaps I am just a layman but they were certainly superb, as far as I could see. I think they quite impressed the remainder of our delegation who are people far more qualified to make comments on such matters.