WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE ASSISTANT CHIEF MINISTER BY DEPUTY I. GARDINER OF ST. HELIER QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 25TH OCTOBER 2021 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2021

Question

Will the Minister provide a breakdown of the expenditure on the Our Hospital Project from 1st September 2021 to date; itemising the payments made by amount, date and recipient?

Answer

The Deputy will be aware that expenditure analysis has been provided previously to States Members during the consideration and approval of the OHP Outline Business Case and the associated presentations. This analysis has given States Members an appropriate level of detail to understand the key expenditure categories for the project. For example, providing costs of a different nature e.g. Pay and staff related costs as well as non-pay categories broken into various headline areas.

I would propose that a similar level of detail is provided to enable Members to track the project costs against those set out in the outline business case and the full business case, when we reach that stage in the project. This will enable them to see clearly progress and performance of the budget along with explanations for any variations and corrective management action.

A request to supply information at invoice level is not consistent with general procedures across Government currently or other such projects and operations across Government. When considering such a request it is important to review the purpose, benefit and impact. We must also consider the balance of public interest and commercial sensitivity.

In addition, I have committed - in agreement with the Treasury - to half yearly reporting aligning to the States Annual Report and Accounts and the half yearly reporting financial cycle.