

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
BY DEPUTY R.G. LE HÉRISSIER OF ST. SAVIOUR
ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 3rd JUNE 2014**

Question

Given the considerable enthusiasm of the relevant French authorities, as expressed for example, in the recent Brittany/Jersey meeting, would the Minister outline the steps, if any, being taken to initiate closer co-operation?

Answer

The Health and Social Services Department has either initiated or participated in some early exploratory discussions with our French counterparts in the following ways:

The Medical Officer of Health held a meeting with her French Public Health counterpart to discuss public health and protection issues and the possibility of sharing data for comparison purposes. This was positively received and this is being explored further.

The Hospital Managing Director has recently met with Dr Lamballais representing the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire exchange project, to have initial discussions about possible collaborative working in relation to medical education, clinical collaborations and tertiary treatments. Co-operation could be developed primarily with the President of Conseil Général Ille et Vilaine and department 35 including Rennes University Hospital. Further investigation of these opportunities has been agreed.

The Deputy Director of Commissioning, with responsibility for overseas contracting, met with Elise Meerpoel, Assistante De Direction of Bureau de Jersey and has provided an annual briefing on the opportunities for French health care providers to tender for acute care services that we are unable to provide on Island. All such tenders are advertised through the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) and are open to providers from any country. In 2013 the Department also provided this information to the delegation from Le Manche at the economic development seminar.