

24.02.06.

9.14 Deputy M.B. Andrews of the Chief Minister regarding an analysis of the respective costs of the previous Our Hospital project in comparison with those of the plans for new multi-site healthcare facilities. (OQ.13/2024)

Will the Chief Minister advise whether he will now be abandoning calls for an analysis of the costs associated with the Overdale Hospital site versus the new multi-site healthcare facilities, despite expressing his concerns regarding the cost of the multi-site healthcare facilities since his re-election in 2022?

Deputy L.J. Farnham (The Chief Minister):

I currently have no plans to seek further clarification. Having spoken with Deputy Binet about the situation, given that he has been at the forefront of the project for the last 18 months, I am fully aware of the implications and challenges that are ahead in preparing this work in detail. Deputy Binet has, I believe, assured this Assembly that he will proceed with full transparency on costings and detail. That is going to be important to win over the Assembly. So, on balance, with all of the information available, I have concluded that the best chance we have of proceeding with the new hospital and therefore in the best interest of Islanders is to continue with Deputy Binet leading the multi-site scheme.

9.14.1 Deputy M.B. Andrews:

Can the Chief Minister confirm whether he is of the belief that the Minister for Health and Social Services would have supported his candidacy for Chief Minister had the Chief Minister maintained his stance and support of the Overdale Hospital site?

Deputy L.J. Farnham:

I believe he would, but you will have to ask him that, because the vote of no confidence was brought on a completely different issue, a far more important issue in relation to the way the Island was being governed, not over previous plans for a hospital.