

I support a new or updated hospital, that being possibly on the previously rejected proposed original site, which was ideal in many ways, but it's entirely clear that there is now overwhelming public opposition to both the huge ratio of cost, to an island with a small population, borrowing and future debt, particularly in the uncertain future of Jersey's finance industry in the move towards global levels of equilibrium in taxation, as well as siting it on a high steep hill, which even if the access is improved with a new road, will still impede access, as well as having no nearby independent retail facilities for those medical staff who will work there.

Our Assembly voted for the Overdale site, as the first recommendation by independent professional industry specialist hospital consultants to update and expand the present hospital site was rejected and was subsequently entirely removed in the next option, largely due to a small but vociferous group of lobbyists, which included some States Members.

Frankly the ensuing dubious alternative sites meant that Overdale was chosen. Scrutiny must now undertake an entirely independent examination of the processes involved in the Overdale site decision, as well as further examining the removal of the initial proposed updated hospital option.

Richard Miles