WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES BY DEPUTY H.L. JEUNE OF ST. JOHN, ST. LAWRENCE AND TRINITY QUESTION SUBMITTED ON MONDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2024 ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON MONDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 2024

Question

"Further to the publication of <u>Strong Foundations</u>: A <u>dementia strategy for Jersey</u> on 28th June 2024 and the <u>Dementia strategy for Jersey</u>, <u>Implementation plan for Year 1</u>, will the Minister advise –

- (a) how, and to what extent, his department is working with stakeholders;
- (b) the draft budget for implementing the strategy in 2025; and
- (c) the total funding required to fully implement the strategy, broken down between Government funding, and funding and resources which will be delivered by stakeholders?"

Answer

- (a) The implementation of the strategy is overseen by a small steering group, which along with HCS officers has representatives from CLS, the charitable sector, a service user and carers. This work is led by a dedicated programme lead, who also coordinates the various pieces of work that are set out in the implementation plan (some of which are led by people from outside HCS. Partnership working with stakeholders is an inherent requirement of the plan, and of some the actions (as described in the implementation plan).
 - Whilst work has commenced against a number of the actions, there has also been some delays in this work in recent weeks due to unplanned absence, but this has been identified and is being addressed. Significant work has been undertaken in reducing the delay in diagnosis for memory assessment, and this target has already been achieved.
- (b) The draft budget for 2025 is not yet finalised this will be done as part of HCS budget setting for 2025 and a total funding budget has not been developed. The agreed approach was to set out and publish the plan for year 1, clearly identifying the financial requirements and then building upon this as the work plan develops.
- (c) As I stated in my ministerial foreword to the <u>Strong Foundations: A Dementia Strategy for Jersey</u> published on 28 June 2024:

With regard to the longer term, I am committed to increasing investment in Public Health initiatives to prevent ill health across a wide range of ailments, including dementia. This is work in progress and would be subject to consideration by Council of Ministers and the wider Assembly. It is my sincere hope that this would result in the delivery of any areas of the strategy that are currently unfunded.

I cannot provide the total funding required, at this time, to fully implement the strategy, but I remain fully committed to identifying and securing the funding necessary to deliver the whole strategy at the earliest opportunity