WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE BY DEPUTY K.G. PAMPLIN OF ST. SAVIOUR ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 10th DECEMBER 2019

Question

Will the Minister update the Assembly on the planning application on behalf of Health and Community Services for the work to be undertaken on Clinique Pinel and the surrounding area, incorporating the provision of a place of safety and the transfer of functions from Orchard House?

Answer

In my answer to the Assembly on 22 October 2019, I advised members that this was a complex project, bringing together three separate projects. Work has started on site for the first of these projects with some essential upgrade and refurbishment that is required to Orchard House. This should be complete by the end of the year.

I also stated that I hoped to be submitting planning applications the following week for the other two projects and indeed a planning application to relocate Orchard House to Clinique Pinel was submitted on 25.10.2019.

The new facility will provide 26 en-suite bedrooms, incorporating a 2 bedded Low Security Facility and a Place of Safety. Associated with this planning application is the need to relocate Beech Ward from Clinique Pinel to Rosewood House. This application was also submitted on the 25.10.2019.

Presently the Bye-Law Application and Detailed Design for both projects is progressing and additional staff have been allocated to expedite the approval and works.

The next milestones will be the submission of the Bye-Law Application by the end of the year and then to tender at the earliest opportunity followed by tender award and start on site in 2020.

The contract period will be determined by the successful contractor; however, the Design Team envisage the contract will take circa 15 months, which will realise a completion date in 2021 to be confirmed.

The agreed (essential) upgrade works to the existing Orchard House in order to bridge the gap until completion of Clinique Pinel are progressing well and most will be complete by the end of the year. Some items have required more detailed investigation / design, in particular, the improved heating / cooling and replacement sanitaryware and these works will be undertaken separately in the new year.

The importance of this project is recognised and in order to move it along with urgency, normal project protocols will be adapted where possible. It must, however, be noted that the sensitive nature of the clients in Clinique Pinel place a natural limit on how quickly the project can be expedited.