Deputy G.P. Southern of the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding Health Services spending and policies in the draft Government Plan (OQ.211/2023)

As the delivery of health services in 2024 will be shaped by the options outlined on page 96 of the draft Government Plan 2024 - 2027, will the Minister assure Members that she will release additional information in time for lodging of amendments to allow for examination of the spending and policies involved in these options and, if not, why not?

Deputy K. Wilson (The Minister for Health and Social Services):

There are no options outlined on page 96 of the Government Plan. The section that the Deputy refers to addresses the sustainability of health funding review, which refers to funding, financing and contracting, which are the matters in scope. Options for a reformed system continue to be in development and have yet to be considered by myself or other Ministers, therefore, I am unable to provide the information requested.

4.14.1 Deputy G.P. Southern:

The query must be: unable to provide today but will, can, could, may provide in time for the debate on the Government Plan, which is of vital importance to next year and the years afterwards in the short and the long term.

Deputy K. Wilson:

I am working towards a proposition regarding health funding for the Assembly, which will come forward in 2024. I can assure the Deputy that before the lodging of that proposition it would be necessary to engage and to consult with all of those affected and involved, and of course the Assembly will be provided with information in good time to enable a well-informed debate. My task over 2023 has been to conduct the work required, which is continuing to get us to that place. The Health and Social Security Panel has been kept up to date with the work and we are expected to brief them shortly again. I will consider how to share the work and engage on potential options in the early part of next year.