

2017.01.30

6 Deputy J.M. Maçon of the Chief Minister regarding measures taken by the Council of Ministers following the debate on P.130/2016: [1(90)]

Following the debate on the hospital spending debate and its referral to Scrutiny, what lessons have the Council of Ministers learned from those circumstances; and what changes to processes and procedures, if any, will be put in place as a result?

Senator I.J. Gorst (The Chief Minister):

As I explained at the last States sitting, financial markets are uncertain and as we embarked on this project of this scale, which matters greatly to Jersey, it was important that we had that debate. Therefore it was right that the Assembly considered the timing of its support to the Minister for Treasury and Resources' proposal.

[15:30]

That was either at the last States sitting or to provide Scrutiny with more time. The Assembly made its decision. I respect that decision. The Council of Ministers respect that decision. Now I will be working with Ministers and the Chairmen's Committee to ensure that we do not find ourselves in such an uncomfortable position as we did at the last States sitting.

4.6.1 Deputy J.M. Maçon:

That sounded to me like not much has been learnt. I wonder then if the Chief Minister can explain what proposals he will be taking to the Chairmen's Committee to discuss what changes he envisages in the future?

Senator I.J. Gorst:

It will not surprise the Deputy to know that it has been an extremely busy fortnight and so there are no concrete proposals that I currently have, other than the work that the Chairmen's Committee has already been doing with the Code of Practice that we have been in conversation and communication with, and I think before that is finalised that creates another great opportunity for us to make sure that that Code of Practice will deal with the issues that arose at the last States sitting.