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**11 The Deputy of St. Ouen of the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding the prospective recruitment of physician associates: [1(82)]**

Following the launch in the United Kingdom of the Faculty of Physician Associates at the Royal College of Physicians in July 2015, will the Minister undertake to consider whether or not the recruitment of physician associates would support consultants and staff and ease recruitment pressures on hospital services in Jersey?

**Senator A.K.F. Green (The Minister for Health and Social Services):**

I thank the Deputy for his question. My department is aware of this initiative both in the United States and in the U.K. and our workforce planning specialists have been reviewing this role. The early indicators are that this role looks promising but the usefulness in the Jersey context has still yet to be considered.

**4.11.1 The Deputy of St. Ouen:**

I am pleased to hear the Minister's answer to that. Can he perhaps elaborate on what responsibilities he might be considering could be undertaken by physician associates?

**Senator A.K.F. Green:**

Typically physician associates work under supervision of a doctor as part of the medical team. They have direct contact with patients, taking medical histories and carrying out examinations. A key consideration for us at the hospital is that we must be able to continue to provide sufficient good quality training for our junior doctors. That is one of the reasons why we are not yet pursuing this role.