

20.10.20

12 Deputy G.P. Southern of St. Helier of the Minister for Health and Social Services regarding engagement with the Island's G.P.s in respect of the Jersey Care Model (OQ.279/2020):

Is it the Minister's assessment that the success or failure of the proposed Jersey Care Model will depend on the support of the Island's G.P.s (general practitioners), and if so, and given that the Health and Social Security Panel's survey of G.P.s indicates that such support is largely absent, will the Minister outline what steps will be taken to ensure the confidence of the majority of G.P.s in the Care Model?

The Deputy of St. Ouen (The Minister for Health and Social Services):

General Practitioners provide vital services to Islanders and, as key stakeholders, their support in improving our health system is essential and important. The responses to the Scrutiny Panel's survey of G.P.s are very useful, reminding myself and us in H.C.S. (Health and Community Services) that it is crucial to continue conversations and engagement with all stakeholders and Islanders on the Jersey Care Model. Officers in H.C.S. have regular monthly meetings with the Primary Care Board and regular contact between meetings. A key commitment from our side is to ensure G.P.s are part of the implementation plan of the Jersey Care Model. G.P.s have raised the desire to review the governance arrangements for future decision-making and officers are currently working with the Primary Care Board to co-design overarching governance principles of the model to ensure sufficient and adequate G.P. representation.

4.12.1 Deputy G.P. Southern:

I thank the Minister for his answer. What information does the Minister have as to the progress on achieving an agreement with G.P.s that they should deliver affordable services in primary health care on the Island?

The Deputy of St. Ouen:

That is rather straying away I think from the direction of the question but that is subject to current negotiation and my understanding is progress has been made.