

19-21 Broad Street | St Helier  
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Deputy Rob Ward  
Chair, HSS Panel  
**BY EMAIL**

29 September 2023

Dear Chair,

**Re: Re: Quarterly Hearing - Residual Questions**

Following my initial response to the Panel's queries in my letter dated 19 September 2023, please see my full response to question 10 and the summary of results for the dementia consultation.

- **Summary of results of dementia consultation**

Engagement with Islanders took the form of a public survey (520 individual responses), a questionnaire sent to all care home and domiciliary care providers, and a series of eight engagement sessions with people with dementia, carers, and professionals from health and social care providers (52 participants).

The outputs of this engagement were analysed, and themes identified include a need for:

- Improved access, availability and timeliness of care including domiciliary, care home and short break (respite) provision that meets the needs of people with dementia and their family/carers.
- Support and information for people and their family/carers whilst undergoing the diagnostic process.
- Provision and continuity of ongoing post-diagnostic support for people with dementia and their family/carers, including a single point of contact.
- Improved awareness, skills, training and experience across the workforce, the public, family/carers, and people with dementia.
- Review of the cost of personal and nursing care, and a commitment to funding of core dementia services.
- Improved public awareness and understanding on brain health and risk reduction.
- Alternatives to hospital admission and opportunities for joined up working.
- Improved and consistent capture of data across primary and secondary care and government departments relating to dementia to enable better understanding of pressures and opportunities.

Other themes included:

- the need for developing dementia-friendly environments.
- a perception of bureaucracy across government departments leading to unnecessary barriers to gaining support.
- the need for improved opportunities for a range of social activities for people with dementia.
- workforce availability and stress.

A full analysis of the themes from global, national, and local evidence and engagement will be included in the Dementia Strategy together with identified priorities and recommendations for action.

When the strategy is drafted, we will be in a position to brief the Panel further and in greater detail.

**10. Have you and the Health CEO and Executive Team given any more thought about reopening the 12 beds on Samarès and the 12 beds on Oak Ward based at Rosewood House? If not, what are these areas being used for now and going forward?**

In relation to Samarès Ward, consideration has been given to the re-opening of the additional 12 inpatient beds. Key reasons for not re-opening the additional 12 beds are:

- the considerable demolition and building work noise and traffic that is expected to start in February 2024.
- the negative impact on patient recovery and wellbeing as a result of the above.
- financial constraints.

The empty in-patient area (12 beds) was repurposed briefly to provide services such as pre-op assessment, ARU, and retinal screening but these services have recently been moved to the Les Quennevais site. This area could be used for inpatient or other activity, however, due to the demolition work, the environment does not support patient recovery or easy access. Funding would be required and any use of Samarès Ward would be subject to meeting the deadline associated with demolition plans of the Overdale site for February 2024.

The current 16 inpatient beds open at Samarès have been maintained during 2023, following the States decision to not return inpatient rehabilitation services to the JGH site, as was originally planned prior to the election. HCS are maintaining the current provision on Samarès Ward at a considerable cost pressure.

In relation to Rosewood House, the Executive Team had considered how the available bed capacity could potentially be used when Beech Ward is relocated.

Following a recent fire inspection, HCS have been advised that there is a need to significantly refurbish Beech Ward to meet fire standards. The Fire Service plan to issue a prohibition notice and therefore Beech Ward cannot be used until these standards are complied with.

I hope the above information is of use to the Panel and please do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely,

**Deputy Karen Wilson**  
**Minister for Health and Social Services**

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