

FOI 352330739- HOSPITAL PROJECT AND CREMATORIUM

RESPONSE:

From: Paul McGinnety <P.McGinnety@gov.je>
Sent: 23 July 2021 11:50
To: Sebastian Perez <s.perez@gov.je>
Cc: Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.je>; Jessica Hardwick <J.Hardwick@gov.je>
Subject: RE: Crematorium

Hi Seb,

Yes, access will still be maintained as I understand.

Paul

From: Sebastian Perez <s.perez@gov.je>
Sent: 23 July 2021 11:49
To: Paul McGinnety <P.McGinnety@gov.je>
Cc: Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.je>; Jessica Hardwick <J.Hardwick@gov.je>
Subject: RE: Crematorium

Thanks Paul. [REDACTED] also asks if Islanders will be able to visit their loved ones. Are you aware if access to the Garden of Remembrance will be maintained during construction?

Thanks

Seb

Sebastian Perez

From: Paul McGinnety <P.McGinnety@gov.je>
Sent: 23 July 2021 11:37
To: Sebastian Perez <s.perez@gov.je>
Cc: Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.je>
Subject: Crematorium

Hi Seb,

I hope you are well.

I see [REDACTED] has raised the issue around services at the Crematorium when the hospital is being built.

We have formed a Crematorium Service user group which consists of Religious Leaders (we still need a non-religious leader) and all of the Islands Funeral Directors and we have already discussed using alternative venues for services/celebrations of lives at different venues, while still using the facility for the actual Cremations.

[REDACTED]

Paul

Paul McGinnety

Director of Local Services

-----ENDS-----

Written question 73- Our hospital and the Crematorium

Caroline Langdon
13:10

Wed 24/02/2021

To Paul McGinnety, Ashok Handa, Sebastian Perez, Ian Burns, Claire Follain, Robert Sainsbury,
Richard Bannister

Thanks Seb – look good.

BW's

Caroline

From: Paul McGinnety

Sent: 24 February 2021 12:26

To: Ashok Handa ; Sebastian Perez ; Ian Burns ; Claire Follain ; Caroline Landon ; Robert Sainsbury ;
Richard Bannister

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Written Question 73 - Our Hospital and the Crematorium

Thanks Seb,

I have nothing further to add.

Paul

From: Ashok Handa <ashok.handa@nds.ox.ac.uk>

Sent: 24 February 2021 12:24

To: Sebastian Perez <s.perez@gov.je>; Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.je>; Claire Follain
<C.Follain@gov.je>; Paul McGinnety <P.McGinnety@gov.je>; Caroline Landon
<C.Landon@health.gov.je>; Robert Sainsbury <R.Sainsbury@health.gov.je>; Richard Bannister
<R.Bannister@gov.je>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Written Question 73 - Our Hospital and the Crematorium

Am content with this well worded and sensitive response,

Ashok

From: Sebastian Perez <s.perez@gov.je>

Date: Wednesday, 24 February 2021 at 12:01

To: Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.je>, Claire Follain <C.Follain@gov.je>, Paul McGinnety
<P.McGinnety@gov.je>, Caroline Landon <C.Landon@health.gov.je>, Robert Sainsbury
<R.Sainsbury@health.gov.je>, Ashok Handa <ashok.handa@nds.ox.ac.uk>, Richard
Bannister <R.Bannister@gov.je>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Written Question 73 - Our Hospital and the Crematorium

Morning all,

Please find a first draft of an answer for WQ73. Given that this is a very sensitive issue and the crematoriums within CLS I wanted to make sure you were all sighted on this and could provide any feedback/comments.

Could you please provide any comments by 1000 tomorrow please?

I suggest that the Ministers for HCS, SocSec and the DCM are sighted on the final draft.

Thanks

Seb

Sebastian Perez

-----ENDS-----

RE: Our Hospital POG Meeting & the Crematorium

Ian Burns

Tue 30/03/2021 10:55

To Paul McGinnety, Sebastian Perez

[REDACTED]

I've just spoken to Seb, to get a bit more detail on where POG is on this, and I have confirmed that I can attend. Ian

From: Paul McGinnety

Sent: 30 March 2021 10:45

To: Sebastian Perez

Cc: [REDACTED]; Ian Burns

Subject: RE: Our Hospital POG Meeting & the Crematorium

Hi Seb,

I am well and I hope you are as well.

While I understand the need for a divorce if we are able to move it in advance to a temporary site that would help the project and stop a number of questions.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Key to the disentangle is that even if we were not building a hospital on that site we would need a new facility in any event for the issues outlined below. We have already contacted Tim Daniels about possible sites for a new facility.

By moving to a temporary location during the construction phase would be beneficial to the hospital project as issues such as parking, noise et cetera would be mitigated.

I have copied Ian in to comment further. Ian this meeting clashes with my leave, would you be able to provide an update to the POG?

Paul

From: Sebastian Perez <s.perez@gov.je>

Sent: 30 March 2021 10:27

To: Paul McGinnety <P.McGinnety@gov.je>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Our Hospital POG Meeting & the Crematorium

Hi Paul

I hope you're well.

What we want to do is disentangle the hospital from the crematorium as they are being linked. We'd like to enact this divorce so that the hospital POG is aware that the governance of any future plans sits operationally within CLS and with the Minister for Health. We'd also like to provide some assurance that CLS has this in their sights or on a work plan. Would Ian be interested in attending a short slot to provide appropriate assurance?

I have no doubt that the OH POG will want to keep abreast of any developments due to the interdependencies. However, we need to resolve the direct involvement with the project to avoid more scope creep [REDACTED]

Thanks

Seb

Sebastian Perez

From: Paul McGinnety <P.McGinnety@gov.je>

Sent: 29 March 2021 16:35

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Our Hospital POG Meeting & the Crematorium

Hi [REDACTED]

I will be on leave on the 15th.

It might be worth reaching out to Ian.

There is not really that much to report at this stage.

Basically the current facility was constructed in 1961 and the cremators are coming to the end of their life. Even if the hospital was not going ahead we would need a new facility in a different location to meet the requirements.

There is no plan to touch the Rose Garden.

One option we have and we have discussed this with the Faith Groups and Funeral Directors is to move services to a temporary location while the hospital/new facility are built. This would resolve a number of issues including parking.

Paul

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 29 March 2021 16:30
To: Paul McGinney <P.McGinney@gov.je>
Subject: Our Hospital POG Meeting & the Crematorium

Good afternoon Paul,

We are intending to provide the Our Hospital Political Oversight Group with a verbal update regarding the Crematorium at their next meeting on Thursday 15 April. Would you and/or Ian Burns like to attend and update POG first hand with the current situation and plans, probably just 5-10 minutes at the front end of the meeting at around 10:10?

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-----ENDS-----

Minute from Our Hospital Political Oversight Group, 15 April 2021.

Update – Crematorium

Advised that operation of the crematorium, which would be located next to the proposed new hospital site under current plans, was being considered by the Customer and Local Services Department (CLS).

IB noted current issues regarding the crematorium including: a dated building, capacity issues, inefficient cremators and nearing end of life and lack of parking. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] It was further noted that the cremators had recently been serviced and had a lifespan of a few more years.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RBa noted that the crematorium had always been a consideration for the project and would need careful management to ensure the project worked alongside the services in a respectful way. POG noted communications surrounding this issue would need to be sensitively planned.

CLS would continue considering the [REDACTED] options and work with the Our Hospital Project (OHP) team and provide the Senior Officer Steering Group (SOSG) and POG with their recommendations, at a later date.

IB left the meeting.

-----ENDS-----

FW: SOSG/POG additional agenda item April

Tue 30/03/2021 14:08

Sebastian Perez s.perez@gov.je

Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.je>

FYI

Thanks

Seb

From: Andrew Scate <A.Scate@gov.je>

Sent: 30 March 2021 14:05

To: Sebastian Perez <s.perez@gov.je>; Caroline Landon <C.Landon@health.gov.je>

Cc: Richard Bannister <R.Bannister@gov.je>

Subject: RE: SOSG/POG additional agenda item April

Thanks Seb

I think it is important for us to have answers on

- The current life of the cremators, when will major investment /replacement be needed.
- What will happen with the memorial garden
- What will happen during construction when crematorium in use
- How will construction impacts be managed
- Will the crematorium operations impact on the hospital?
- How will parking work?

From: Sebastian Perez <s.perez@gov.je>

Sent: 30 March 2021 13:14

To: Caroline Landon <C.Landon@health.gov.je>; Andrew Scate <A.Scate@gov.je>

Cc: Richard Bannister <R.Bannister@gov.je>

Subject: SOSG/POG additional agenda item April

Hi both,

Following the increasing interest in the dependencies between the crematorium and OH, we've suggested including this item on the SOSG/POG agendas for April – it was bumped off the last POG agenda. I've spoken to Ian Burns, who is happy to attend for the item and ensure that we are aligned with CLS before discussing with POG. Whilst not urgent, I think this is something that would be good to resolve as soon as possible and disentangle it from the project and into CLS governance –

in a similar way to the JBC. [REDACTED]

Thanks

Seb

Sebastian Perez

-----ENDS-----

Re: Crem vs Hosp

Richard Bannister R.Bannister@gov.je

Thu 01/04/2021 12:10

Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.je>

A few additions below

Richard Bannister
Our Hospital Development Director

From: Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.je>

Sent: 31 March 2021 18:23

To: Richard Bannister <R.Bannister@gov.je>

Subject: Crem vs Hosp

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Ian

Ian Burns
Director General

-----ENDS-----

RE: States Members Briefing on Monday Our Hospital

Sebastian Perez s.perez@gov.je

Fri 26/03/2021 11:38

Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.je>; Paul McGinnety P.McGinnety@gov.je

[Redacted]

Morning both,

Slides aren't yet ready but will ask [Redacted] to add you to the distribution list for when they are circulated as they will be coming from Lyndon.

The agenda is not planned to cover the crematorium, but as you observe, there has been growing interest recently.

The agenda is planned to cover:

- Update since the last briefing
- Correcting misconceptions – crem not included but may be raised by Members
- Development of design thinking

Thanks

Seb

Sebastian Perez

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 26 March 2021 11:34

To: Sebastian Perez <s.perez@gov.je>; [Redacted]

Subject: Fwd: States Members Briefing on Monday Our Hospital

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2021 10:17:28 AM
To: Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.ie>; Paul McGinnety <P.McGinnety@gov.ie>
Cc: Paul Bradbury <P.Bradbury@gov.ie>; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: States Members Briefing on Monday Our Hospital

Good morning Ian, Paul,

I have forwarded the invite for Monday morning's hospital briefing.

I've not yet had sight of the agenda or slides [REDACTED] could you advise please?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Ian Burns <I.Burns@gov.ie>
Sent: 26 March 2021 09:21
To: Paul Bradbury <P.Bradbury@gov.ie>
Cc: Paul McGinnety <P.McGinnety@gov.ie>
Subject: States Members Briefing on Monday Our Hospital

Hi Paul, there is a States Members briefing on the Hospital on Monday. Please can Paul & myself be forwarded the invite & agenda. The Crematorium (now CLS) is increasingly of interest to members in relation to the overdale site. I'm not sure we need to attend, but it would be good to have the option! Ian

Ian Burns
Director General

-----ENDS-----

Public Interest Test for Engagement of Article 35- Policy under development

REASONS TO RELEASE INFORMATION

- disclosure of the information would support transparency and promote accountability to the general public, providing confirmation that the necessary discussions have taken place
- disclosure to the public fulfils an educative role about the early stages in procedural development and illustrates how the department engages with parties for this purpose
- information contained in the docs conveys a sympathetic approach to the handling of the crematorium during the hospital project which could inspire public confidence in the project and in government.

REASONS TO WITHHOLD INFORMATION

- the nature of meetings is confidential. If made public, the content outlining disagreements between parties could undermine consensus driven decision-making and the work of government officials
- government officials must be at liberty to express their views frankly and candidly, without the fear of their views being automatically or even potentially reported in public, otherwise they might express their views less vigorously or more circumspectly, or even feel restrained from voicing them at all, for fear that they will be represented in the media, now or in the near-future, in a way that is damaging to either themselves, the Government, or the Island. This is especially the case during the “live” development of policy, when a “safe space” within which discussions takes place helps with the formulation of good decisions
- the risk, if publication takes place, is that discussions become stilted and constrained, known as the “chilling effect”, by the knowledge that such discussions could be made public and decision-making would not have the benefit of the full range of freely expressed opinions to inform it
- minutes of meetings could also become increasingly anodyne and uninformative, if they are to be public, to the detriment of good record-keeping and future decision-making where that relies on previous records of decisions taken to inform them on specific policy matters.
- Information contained in the documents could be used divisively and out of context by actors wishing to derail the hospital project. The journey to reach the current position with the hospital project has been challenging and costly, and the risk of derailment is high. If this were to happen there could be significant negative consequences, for example, the public of Jersey are in desperate need of new hospital facilities and further delays could compromise health care on the island, and incur additional costs to the project .

The decision is to withhold certain information under Article 35.