

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Date: Friday 6th October 2006

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Liberal Vannin Party Welcomes DHSS Review But Slams Minister As Incompetent!

The Liberal Vannin Party welcomes the review of the DHSS finances and asks that the Council of Ministers take on board the Liberal Vannin Party Statement regarding the inclusion of management and accountability issues as part of any review to re-prioritising resources and getting away from clipboard management to hands-on patient care instead.

Liberal Vannin Party Leader Peter Karran MHK, former Member, not Minister of Health, said the issues of management and accountability are a vital factor when dealing with the Health Service. Having an Administration Committee, which is not employed by the hospital, is needed to bring back the ownership of our National Health Service while accountability and proper management is the only right way forward to get pride back into this important facility for us all. Mr. Karran calls on the Government to resolve to stop bringing in half-baked, ill-thought out ideas from the UK as this is the only way to sort out the financial problems of the DHSS. The Liberal Vannin Party hopes that the Council of Ministers will deal with the issues of efficient management and audit as a priority when reviewing the DHSS finances.

Nigel Dobson, party spokesman for Health and Liberal Vannin candidate for Garff who is standing against the DHSS Ministers Stephen Rodan in the forthcoming election, said "How on earth the current Minister allowed the financial controls, checks and balances to get into such a mess is beyond me. The careful management of finances is critical to any organisation and I certainly hope he manages his own finances far better than he manages

the public money entrusted to him which accounts for nearly 50% of the government's total spend. The fact that the DHSS finances are in such an appalling state is quite frankly disgraceful. Furthermore the fact that the Minister responsible has openly welcomed the scathing criticism of PriceWaterhouseCoopers against his financial incompetence is arrogance beyond belief! If this is not a clear mandate for change at the top I don't know what is!"

Mr Karran concluded by saying "We should never have allowed the DHSS to get into such a state in the first place. It is abundantly clear that the DHSS under Ministerial guidance has been allowed to fall into such a poor state given the huge portion of the national budget it consumes. It has taken an outside company to tell us that the Minister is not doing his job properly. This mismanagement is the result of a lack of a coherent financial policy on health."