

## Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Notes from meeting held on Monday 27th February 2006  
Le Capelain Room

Present Deputy P J D Ryan, Chairman  
Senator J L Perchard  
Connétable J L S Gallichan  
Deputy J Gallichan  
Connétable D J Murphy

In attendance Mr M Haden, Scrutiny Officer  
Miss S Power, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
1 Item 3 15.02.06	<p><b>Briefing from the Treasury &amp; Resources Department</b></p> <p>The Panel received Mr Ian Black, Treasurer of the States and Mr. Julian Morris, Departmental Scrutiny Liaison Officer to discuss briefing papers previously provided to the Panel on</p> <p>a. <b>the involvement of the Scrutiny Panel in the scrutiny of the States Annual Business Plan and Budget processes:</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the Department would provide the Panel with papers regarding the resource allocation process once these had been submitted to the Council of Ministers for consideration. It was also intended to provide Scrutiny with advance copies of the States Annual Business Plan and Budget proposals to provide a longer period for review by the Panel.</p> <p>b. <b>Fiscal Strategy developments.</b></p> <p>The Panel agreed to receive copies of the minutes/actions and other related papers from meetings of the Fiscal Strategy Programme Board, together with copies of periodic progress reports, a copy of the Crown Agents contract and terms of reference and advance copies of consultation documents and draft legislation relating to GST and Income Tax changes.</p>	<b>DSLO</b>
2 Item 3 15.02.06	<p><b>Public meeting with Treasury and Resources Minister on 3rd March 2006</b></p> <p>The Panel discussed questions to be put to the Minister for Treasury &amp; Resources relating to:</p> <p>a. The Fiscal Strategy, in particular 0/10 proposals and 'look through' arrangements. The Panel was aware that questions had been raised by the Shadow Scrutiny Panel in its report SR6/2005 and agreed to follow up these questions</p> <p>b. The implementation of ITIS</p> <p>c. Progress in the development of the States Property Holding department</p> <p>d. The Departmental Business Plan 2006</p> <p>The Chairman requested that an outline plan of questioning be prepared by its officers.</p>	<b>MH</b>
3 Item 2	<p><b>Age of consent review</b></p> <p>The Panel received the proposed question plans for the Solicitor General.</p>	

15.02.06	The Panel, having noted that further correspondence from Mr. D. Pearce had been referred to the Solicitor General for legal advice, agreed to invite him to attend a Public Hearing on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> March.	<b>SP</b>
4 Item 2 03.02.06	<p><b>Expert Adviser</b></p> <p>The Chairman reported on his meeting with the Chairman of the JCRA who had advised that someone with an academic background in economic studies was likely to meet the Panel's requirements. The Scrutiny Officer reported on current progress in approaching universities and bodies such as the Institute of Fiscal Studies. The Panel requested that the Comptroller and Auditor General also be approached for advice on possible sources of independent advice.</p> <p>The Panel agreed, in principle, an independent expert with a broad view of taxation policy and its international implications would add authority to any review it might undertake on fiscal strategy. It noted, however, that an expert from outside the island would require time to become familiar with the Jersey context. It was also important that the person should be accessible and available to attend Panel meetings and hearings on a regular basis.</p>	<b>MH</b>
5	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>a. The Panel noted a scrutiny proposal from Mr. B. Curtis, dated 1st February 2006 regarding the operation of certain non-resident trading companies under the proposed zero/ten tax measures. The Panel agreed to invite Mr. Curtis to discuss his ideas further.</p> <p>b. The Panel having noted that previous drafts of the Strategic Plan had been received by the Scrutiny Office as requested noted that the Plan was to be published shortly. It agreed to request a briefing on the Plan from the Chief Minister.</p> <p>c. The Panel also noted that a briefing for States members on the Chief Minister's Department, scheduled for 3rd March, clashed with its meeting with the Treasury and Resources Minister. As this Department was a key element in its remit, the Panel requested that it receive this briefing on a different occasion.</p>	<p><b>Officers</b></p> <p><b>Officers</b></p> <p><b>Officers</b></p>

Signed

Date

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Chairman, Corporate Services Panel

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