

Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Record of Meeting

Date: 4th September 2013

Meeting No: 103

Present	Senator S.C. Ferguson, Chairman Deputy J.G. Reed, Vice-Chairman Deputy R.J. Rondel
Apologies	
Absent	Deputy S. Power
In attendance	Mr. W. Millow, Scrutiny Officer Miss S. McKee, Scrutiny Officer Miss P. Brown, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p>1. Records of Meetings</p> <p>The Panel approved the records of the meetings held on 15th, 24th, 25th, 26th and 31st July and 5th and 12th August 2013. The Panel also approved the private records of 15th and 25th July 2013. The records were signed accordingly.</p>	
<p>31/07/13 Item 1 513/40</p>	<p>2. 2014 Budget</p> <p>The Panel recalled that Senator P.F.C. Ozouf, Minister for Treasury and Resources, had undertaken to provide the Panel with analyses in respect of parental contributions and noted that no information had yet been received. It was agreed that the matter would be followed up.</p> <p>The Panel noted that it would receive a private briefing from the Minister on the Draft 2014 Budget Statement at 10:45am on 9th September 2013.</p> <p>Consideration was given to the appointment of an expert advisor. The Panel was informed of approaches which had been made to a number of organisations but from which no expressions of interest had been received. It was noted that expressions of interest had been received, however, from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and Professor M.J. Oliver, both of whom had worked with the Corporate Services (MTFP) Sub-Panel during the Scrutiny Review of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) in 2012. It was noted that CVs for both Professor Oliver and Mr. S.W. Fair (who CIPFA had proposed would act on its behalf) had been circulated ahead of the Panel's meeting. It was ultimately agreed to appoint both CIPFA and Professor Oliver as advisors to the Panel, with their responsibilities to be split in the same manner as they had been split during the MTFP Review.</p> <p>Consideration was given to whether other Scrutiny Panels would undertake work on the Draft 2014 Budget Statement (given that elements of the Budget might be relevant to other Panels' remits) and, if so, how the Panel would co-ordinate with those other Panels. It was</p>	<p>WM</p> <p>WM</p>

	agreed that the Chairman would raise this matter at the next meeting of the Chairmen's Committee.	SF
24/07/13 Item 4 513/36	<p>3. Population and Migration</p> <p>The Panel recalled its agreement to request an update in respect of the recommendation made in <i>Population and Migration Part 2</i> (SR2/2013) that the Chief Minister should ensure that a comparison was undertaken between the annual updates and the numbers of locally qualified licenses that were allocated and that these findings should be published in a report and presented to the States on an annual basis. The Panel also recalled its agreement to follow up another recommendation that, three months before the debate on the Population Policy, the Chief Minister should request the Chief Statistician to provide his view on when the register would be statistically viable as a rolling measure of the Island's population. It was noted that the Scrutiny Office was in the process of arranging an officer meeting with the Director of Corporate Policy and that these matters would therefore be pursued in due course. The Panel agreed that it would also seek the views of the Chief Statistician in respect of the latter recommendation.</p> <p>The Panel recalled that an Interim Population Policy was due to be received imminently. It was noted that the Scrutiny Office would discuss the matter with the Director of Corporate Policy in order to ensure clarity about the timescales involved in development of both that Policy and the Long-Term Plan. The Panel further noted that Scrutiny of the Long-Term Plan might also be a subject which would beneficially be discussed by the Chairmen's Committee in due course.</p>	SM SM
10/07/13 Item 5 513/35	<p>4. Medium Term Financial Plan</p> <p>The Panel was advised that a response was awaited in respect of its request for an update on the recommendation that the Minister for Treasury and Resources should examine and report to the States Assembly by July 2013 on the implications of extending the period of future MTFPs to five years in duration.</p> <p>The Panel recalled that, at a previous meeting, it had noted that if <i>Draft Public Finances (Amendment No.4) (Jersey) Law 201-(P.73/2013)</i> were adopted, it would see the repeal of Article 7(5) of the <i>Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2005</i> and as a result it would no longer be possible for the States to amend the period to which the MTFP related. Consequently, the MTFP would mirror the electoral cycle exactly and would therefore not last five years unless the electoral cycle were changed to do so. The Panel was advised that, in fact, whilst Article 7(5) would indeed be repealed with the adoption of P.73/2013, adoption of the Draft Amendment would see the insertion of a provision by which Parts 3 and 4 of the Law could be amended by Regulations and under which it would indeed be feasible for the States Assembly to amend the period to which the MTFP related.</p> <p>The Panel was informed that a copy of the update on follow-up work to the MTFP Review had yet to be dispatched for the attention of the Public Accounts Committee.</p>	WM WM
24/07/13 Item 6 513/38	<p>5. Deposit Loan Scheme</p> <p>The Panel noted that the Starter Home Deposit Loan Scheme had been implemented and that it had received a copy of the guide to the</p>	

	Scheme which was provided to prospective applicants. The Panel agreed to request an update on the Scheme's progress.	WM
22/08/13 Item 1 513/37(4)	6. Public Finances Law The Panel noted that its report, <i>Review of the Draft Amendments to the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2005</i> (SR10/2013), had been presented to the States on 28th August 2013 and that <i>Draft Public Finances (Amendment No.4) (Jersey) Law 201-</i> (P.73/2013) would be debated at the sitting due to begin on 10th September 2013. The Panel prepared its approach to the debate on P.73/2013 and the related amendments, including the Panel's own.	
26/06/13 Item 5 513/39	7. Minister for External Relations The Panel noted that <i>Draft States of Jersey (Minister for External Relations) (Jersey) Regulations 201-</i> (P.67/2013) would be debated at the sitting of the States Assembly due to begin on 10th September 2013. The Panel prepared its approach to the debate on P.67/2013.	
24/07/13 Item 6 513/1(41)	8. Modernisation Programme The Panel considered a draft Scoping Document and draft Terms of Reference for a prospective review in relation to the Modernisation Programme. It was agreed that a key issue within the review would be the use of funds during Phase 1 of the Programme. It was also agreed that it would be important to consider how progress on Phase 1 would be monitored. It was noted that the Scrutiny Review, as scoped, would involve a public hearing with Senator A.J.H. Maclean, Minister for Economic Development, who had been given political responsibility for delivery of the Programme. Consideration was given to whether the Panel should also gather evidence from employee representatives. The Panel was advised that this might potentially increase the scope of the review and would therefore make it difficult for it to be completed before Christmas 2013. It was therefore noted that further work would be undertaken on scoping the proposed review.	WM / SM
08/05/13 Item 8	9. Budget Report The Panel noted a report on its expenditure as of 30th June 2013.	
	10. Future Meetings The Panel agreed its meeting schedule for 2014, noting that Members would initially block out each day on which a meeting was scheduled to occur. It was noted that Quarterly Public Hearing dates for 2014 would be arranged in due course. The Panel noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place at 9:30am on 18th September 2013.	WM / SM
05/09/12 Item 2 513/1(40)	11. Fiscal Policy Panel The Panel was advised that an invitation had been received for it to meet the Fiscal Policy Panel (FPP) during the lunchtime adjournment of the sitting of the States Assembly due to take place on 25th September 2013. The Panel agreed to accept the invitation and requested that arrangements be made for Professor M.J. Oliver, one of its prospective advisors for the Scrutiny Review of the Draft 2014 Budget Statement, to accompany the Panel to the meeting. It was also agreed that it would be beneficial for there to be clarity as to the	WM / SM

	purpose of the meeting.	
12/06/13 Item 8 513/1(40)	<p>12. Quarterly Public Hearing with the Chief Minister</p> <p>The Panel noted that its next Quarterly Public Hearing with Senator I.J. Gorst, Chief Minister, would take place at 10:00am on 19th September 2013. Consideration was given to a draft question plan for the hearing. Amendments and additions to the question plan were identified, which the Scrutiny Officers were requested to enact.</p>	WM / SM