

Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel

Record of Meeting

11th January 2017

Present	Deputy S.M. Brée, Chairman Deputy D. Johnson, Vice-Chairman Connétable J.E. Le Maistre Connétable M.J. Paddock
Apologies	
Absent	
In attendance	Mr M. Orbell, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	1. Records of meetings The Minutes of the meeting held on 16th December 2016 were approved and signed.	MO
Item 2 16.11.16 515/35	2. Licensing Law The Panel welcomed the Minister, Assistant Director, Head of Policy and Legislation, and Policy Manager of Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture to the meeting to provide an update on progress with the draft law. The Panel noted that this was expected to be lodged by the end of January. Minor amendments were still being addressed, but the law had already been approved by the Council of Ministers, subject to minor changes. The department was keen to debate the law as soon as reasonably possible, but reaffirmed the intention to allow sufficient time for the Panel to carry out its review. There was discussion of the department's decision to reserve much of the detail of the new licensing arrangements for the Regulations. The Panel expressed some concern that this could result in States Members debating the law without a clear understanding of how it would be expected to work in practice. Although it was understood that a detailed Statement of Licensing Policy would accompany the Regulations in due course, the Panel suggested that publishing an outline of the licensing principles could be helpful prior to the debate on the draft law. It was decided that the Panel would focus an initial report on the primary legislation rather than ancillary matters, but thereafter work in parallel with the department as the Regulations were developed. This would hopefully promote better understanding, avoid unnecessary delay and reduce the likelihood of last-minute disagreement or misunderstandings.	MO
Item 1 18.11.17	3. Rural Economy Strategy (RES) The Director, Environmental Management and Rural Economy and the Entomologist and Head of Plant Health from the Environment Department joined the Minister for Economic Development, Tourism,	

	<p>Sport and Culture for this part of the meeting. The Panel was informed that the RES would be considered by the Council of Ministers on 25th January. It was currently in the final stages of preparation, and it was suggested that with the Minister's agreement a final draft could be shared with the Panel by 18th January, subject to any changes which might be requested by the Corporate Management Board. A briefing for States Members would probably follow, and the strategy would be presented to the States as a report and implemented by ministerial decision.</p>	
	<p>4. Forthcoming meetings</p> <p>Next scheduled Panel meeting: 9.30am on 25th January 2017, Blampied Room, States Building.</p>	<p>MO</p>