

# Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

## PUBLIC MEETING

### Record of Meeting

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2007

Meeting Number: 34

Present	Deputy P J D Ryan, Chairman Senator J Perchard, Vice Chairman Connétable J L S Gallichan Connétable D Murphy Deputy C Egré
In attendance	Mr M Haden, Scrutiny Officer Miss S Power, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
1.	<b>Minutes –</b> The Panel approved the minutes of the meetings held on the 15 <sup>th</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2007.	
2.	<b>Notes –</b> The Panel received notes of the confidential meeting held on the 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2007 with the Minister for Treasury and Resources.	
3.  Item 4 15.02.07   Item 11 15.02.07	<b>Matters arising –</b> <b>a. International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage –</b> The Panel noted the response from Mr M Entwistle, International Relations Officer, and the subsequent response from Mr P Baker, Maritime Compliance Manager. The Panel agreed that this matter should be investigated further, and delegated responsibility to Deputy Egré to arrange a meeting with Mr Baker, and to report back to the Panel with further information. <b>b. Government Bonds -</b> The Panel noted that Mr Steel had been contacted to request for a paper demonstrating the financial and economic benefits to the Island of implementing Government Bonds, and that this information would be provided to the Panel in due course.	<b>CE</b>
4.	<b>Chairmen's Committee –</b> The Panel noted that as a number of issues on the last	

	Chairmen's Committee agenda had been deferred, no briefing notes had been prepared from this meeting; however Minutes would be circulated to all members.	
5.	<p><b>Access to Council of Ministers Part B Papers –</b></p> <p>The Panel noted the response from the Chief Minister dated the 15<sup>th</sup> February 2007, and agreed that the Panel was now getting full co-operation with regard to access to confidential information.</p>	
6.	<p><b>Financial account –</b></p> <p>The Panel noted the financial account for the year of 2006. Connétable Murphy noted that each Scrutiny Panel had contributed £5,000 in 2006 for PR Consultancy, and questioned whether Scrutiny was currently receiving value for money in this area, as he believed there had not been a discernible increase in terms of public involvement in the Scrutiny function.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Forthcoming legislation –</b></p> <p>The Panel noted a paper outlining forthcoming items of draft legislation due to be debated within the next month.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Ministerial decisions –</b></p> <p>The Panel noted a paper documenting Ministerial decisions for the period from the 8<sup>th</sup> February to the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2007.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Date of next meeting –</b></p> <p>The Panel agreed to hold an update meeting during the States lunch break on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2007, to provide an opportunity to approve the draft GST report.</p> <p>The next monthly Panel meeting would take place on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2007.</p>	
<p>10.</p> <p>Item 10a 15.02.07</p> <p>Item 10b 15.02.07</p> <p>Item 10c 15.02.07</p>	<p><b>Current Reviews –</b></p> <p>a. <b>Overseas Aid Review –</b> The Panel received an oral progress report from the Chairman of the Sub Panel. The Panel noted that the Sub Panel was currently waiting for a response from the Overseas Aid Commission to its request for further evidence, and that this was expected to be received on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2007. The Panel noted that should any issues remain outstanding once this information had been received, the Sub Panel might choose to hold a further Public Hearing with the Commission on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2007.</p> <p>b. <b>GST Review –</b> The Panel noted that the GST Sub Panel was currently in the process of drafting its report, with a view to presenting it to the States by the end of March 2007, in advance of the debate on the draft legislation, which was scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2007.</p>	

<p>Item 10d 15.02.07</p>	<p><b>c. Zero/Ten Review</b> – The Panel noted that the Sub Panel was expecting to receive the next stage of the draft legislation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April. The Minister for Treasury and Resources had advised the Sub Panel that the legislation would be likely to be scheduled for debate by the States on the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2007.</p> <p>The Panel received a response from the Chief Minister to a letter sent by Senator Perchard on the 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2007, raising questions with regard to the issue of a level playing field. The Panel agreed that there was a lack of clarity surrounding this issue, and that it would be beneficial for the Zero/Ten Sub Panel to widen its terms of reference to include researching the Island’s obligations internationally in terms of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. OECD Tax Information Exchange Agreements</li> <li>2. Savings Tax Initiative with EU Member States</li> <li>3. Code of Conduct on Harmful Tax Practices</li> </ol> <p>The Panel requested for the terms of reference for this review to be amended accordingly, and for Mr Teather, the Panel’s adviser, to be contacted and informed of this decision.</p> <p><b>d. Migration Policy Review</b> – The Panel noted that the Sub Panel had held informative meetings with the Data Protection Commissioner and the Statistics Unit on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007. The Panel noted that the Sub Panel’s next meeting was scheduled for the 22<sup>nd</sup> March, where the Sub Panel would be meeting with representatives from the Health Department, to discuss progress with the health screening database.</p>	<p>SP</p>
<p>11. Item 2 27.02.07</p>	<p><b>Meeting with the Chief Minister –</b></p> <p>The Panel welcome Senator F.H. Walker, Chief Minister; Mr B Ogle, Chief Executive; to its meeting to discuss the following issues from the report on strategic initiatives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>The Island’s obligations in terms of a level playing field with the EU and OECD</b> – The Panel informed the Chief Minister that the Zero/Ten Sub Panel would be widening its terms of reference to include research into this issue, with the ultimate aim of providing clarity to all States Members, and members of the public in terms of the Island’s commitments. It was agreed that there would be benefit in the Sub Panel working with the Chief Minister to achieve this objective.</li> <li>b. <b>The Island’s move to a Zero/Ten Corporate Taxation Structure.</b></li> </ol>	

	<b>c. The Island's constitutional relationship with the United Kingdom.</b>	
--	---	--

Signed

Date:

.....  
.....

Chairman  
Deputy P J D Ryan