

Chairmen's Committee

Record of Meeting

Date: 04.03.11
Meeting No: 72

Present	Senator B. E. Shenton, President Deputy R.G. Le Hérisssier, Vice-President Senator A. Breckon Senator S.C. Ferguson Deputy P.J. Rondel
Apologies	
Absent	Deputy G.P Southern Deputy M.R. Higgins
In attendance	Deputy T. Vallois (item 3 only) Mrs. K. Tremellen-Frost, Scrutiny Manager

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
24.02.11 item 6 510/1(58)	1. Annual Report 2010 The Committee approved an additional statement from the Chairmen's Committee to the Annual Report 2010. It also noted that the report would be incorporated within the States Assembly Report 2010 for presentation to the States.	
1444/1(55)	2. P27/2011 States Strategic Plan: Annual Debate on Progress The Committee considered the above proposition which had been lodged "au Greffe" by Deputy P.V.F. Le Claire and agreed that it wished to make comments to the effect that the Strategic Plan should not be adopted by the Assembly but that it should be a report presented to the States which would set out the vision and targets of the Council of Ministers. The Committee also wished to comment that part (c) of the proposition equated to an annual vote of confidence in the Council of Ministers which the Committee believed to be inappropriate. Finally it would recommend that the Council of Ministers gave consideration to models used by other countries.	
27.01.11 Item 15 510/1(5)	3. Code of Practice Review The Committee welcomed Deputy T. Vallois to the meeting who explained that the Code of Practice Review Group's findings and recommendations had been forwarded to the Chairmen's Committee in June 2010 but no action had been taken due to the lodging "au Greffe" of P70/2010 and subsequently P.120/2010, both which proposed changes to the structure of government. Firstly, the Committee considered two different definitions of scrutiny and requested that the definition which had been included in P120/2010 be circulated to the Committee Members. The Committee considered the view that there should be the provision to call departmental officials as witnesses without the Chief Officer of that Department knowing. The Committee had mixed views on this as Chief Officers had the responsibility of the implementation of policies	KTF

	<p>and were responsible for his/her staff.</p> <p>Having considered the recommendations within the paper, the Committee agreed that these should be circulated to all Scrutiny Members and their views requested.</p> <p>As a supplementary to the findings and recommendations within the paper, Deputy Vallois explained her views in respect of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review evaluations should be taken at the next Panel meeting after publication of a report and the outcomes forwarded to the Chairmen's Committee; • Training should be provided to <u>all</u> Members of the States on scrutiny; • Concern in respect of Members having names included in reports but not being active Members of the review; • Health, Social Security and Housing Scrutiny Panel had too large a remit. It would be useful to consider splitting this and placing Chief Minister's Department, Treasury and Resources and Economic Development as one Panel; • Scoping documents and Terms of Reference should be Panel approved before any confidential information is released. <p>The Committee considered that there was no restriction on the numbers of Members on a Sub-Panel. This meant that a Sub-Panel could exist with as few as two Members, making a quorum of one. This was believed to be inappropriate and agreed that a report and proposition be drafted to effect changes to this so that the minimum number of Members on a Sub-Panel was three.</p> <p>The matter was concluded by requesting the Scrutiny Manager to start work again on a simplified Code of Practice.</p>	<p>KTF</p> <p>KTF</p>
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Signed

Date:



24th March 2011

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 Senator B. Shenton
 President