

## Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel

### PUBLIC MEETING

### Record of Meeting

Date: 16th January 2009

Meeting 1

Present	Deputy M.R. Higgins, Chairman Deputy C.F. Labey, Vice-Chairman Deputy J.M. Maçon Deputy S. Pitman Deputy D.J.A. Wimberley
Apologies	
Absent	
In attendance	T. Oldham, Scrutiny Officer S. Le Quesne, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p><b>1. Vice-Chairman</b> The Panel appointed Deputy C.F. Labey as its Vice-Chairman.</p>	
	<p><b>2. Working Practices</b> The Panel agreed that good communication between the Members and with the officers would be essential for it to operate effectively, and further agreed that Members would respond quickly to Panel related emails, copying in both Panel Members and officers. Members agreed to give early notice to Panel colleagues and officers of any time that they had arranged to be away from the Island or of any absences from scheduled Panel meetings. The Panel noted that, with a Membership of five, its quorum would be three Members.</p> <p>The Panel agreed that once it had requested letters to be drafted by the officers the Chairman would approve the final draft, unless otherwise agreed at the time of the request. The Chairman's electronic signature would be added and the letter would be distributed to the intended recipient. It would subsequently be included on the next Panel Agenda for noting. The Chairman agreed to forward the officers an electronic version of his signature.</p> <p>The Panel noted that all communication and requests to the Department under its remit should be undertaken via the Panel's officers.</p> <p>The Panel discussed the possibility of Members acting officially as <i>rappoteurs</i> on specific areas within its remit. Alternatively the Panel discussed the possibility that certain Members would keep a watching brief on designated areas and bring matters arising to the attention of the Panel. The Panel agreed that at this stage Deputy Labey would monitor matters relating to Agriculture and Fishing, Deputy Maçon matters relating to Training and Skills and Deputy Higgins matters relating to Harbours and Airport. All other areas would be monitored by the full Panel.</p>	MH

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	<p><b>3. Work Programme</b> The Panel noted receipt of two topic proposals from Members of the Public. After consideration, the Panel decided that it would not undertake reviews of the suggested topics at this stage and requested the officers to draft letters of response. The Panel also noted that the Chairman had received a topic proposal regarding air transport from Deputy Le Claire, and the officers were requested to copy and distribute the proposal to the other Panel Members.</p> <p>The Panel noted receipt of the Economic Development Department's 2009 Business Plan and considered further topics for eventual inclusion in its 2009 Work Programme. It requested that the Item be included for further consideration on the Panel's next Agenda.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that responsibility for the scrutiny of some topics that had been raised fell, or potentially fell, outside the Panel's remit, including migration, housing, the Executive's strategies in response to the economic downturn and the Independent Review into British Offshore Financial Centres. The Panel was advised that the Corporate Services Panel had already agreed to establish a Migration Sub-Panel. The Panel agreed to write to the Chairman of the Corporate Services Panel to convey that it would welcome the opportunity for one or more of its Members to sit on the Sub-Panel.</p> <p>The Chairman advised that he would be raising the possibility of cross-cutting reviews with his fellow Chairmen.</p>	<p>TO/ SLQ</p> <p>TO/ SLQ</p> <p>TO/ SLQ</p> <p>TO/ SLQ</p>
	<p><b>4. Meeting Schedule</b> The Panel agreed its meeting schedule for 2009, noting that, with a few exceptions, its regular meeting day would be Monday. The confirmed schedule would be circulated by the officers.</p> <p>The Panel discussed the possibility of undertaking site visits and receiving briefings from the Economic Development Department and the Jersey Financial Services Commission. It requested that the officers contact the Department and the Commission to establish the feasibility of such visits.</p>	<p>TO/ SLQ</p> <p>TO/ SLQ</p>
	<p><b>5. Assessment and Scoping Process</b> The Panel noted the process for scoping and assessing reviews.</p>	
	<p><b>6. Legacy Report</b> The Panel considered the Legacy Report of the previous Economic Affairs Panel. The Panel requested that the officers prepare a briefing on the status of Ministerial Responses to the previous Panel's reviews and any follow up work that it had undertaken.</p> <p>The Panel also requested that, in light of his rôle monitoring Training and Skills matters for the Panel, the officers forward the background papers and evidence gathered during the Employment and Training Opportunities review to Deputy Maçon.</p>	<p>TO/ SLQ</p> <p>TO/ SLQ</p>
	<p><b>7. Strategic Plan</b> The Panel noted the timetable for development of the new Plan.</p>	
	<p><b>8. Legislative Programme</b> The Panel noted the 2009 legislation programme for the Economic Development Minister, as outlined in an updated document provided by the Economic Development Department. It was noted that the Panel would have the opportunity to discuss the Minister's legislative priorities when it met him at a meeting scheduled for 9th February 2009.</p>	

	<p><b>9. Ministerial Decisions</b></p> <p>The Panel noted the following Ministerial Decisions that had been made by the Minister for Economic Development:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Sea Fisheries (Trawling, Netting &amp; Dredging) (Jersey) Regulations 2001: Amendment (MD-E-2008-0229)</i></li> <li>2. <i>Spectrum Trading (MD-E-2008-0237)</i></li> <li>3. <i>Shipping (Fees) (No.2) (Jersey) Order 2008 (MD- E-2008-0234)</i></li> <li>4. <i>Dormant Bank Accounts Consultation Paper (MD- E-2008-0239)</i></li> <li>5. <i>Amendments to the Proceeds of Crime (Supervisory Bodies) (Jersey) Law 2008. (MD-E-2008-0241)</i></li> <li>6. <i>Amendments to the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991 ("the Law"). (MD-E-2008-0243)</i></li> </ol> <p>The Panel discussed the issue of accessibility to Ministerial Decisions. The Panel agreed that the Chairman would represent the Panel's views on the issue to the Chairmen's Committee as the issue was due to be discussed at its meeting on 22nd January.</p>	MH
	<p><b>10. Forthcoming Propositions</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that the following propositions had been lodged <i>au Greffe</i>, the first for debate on 20th January 2009, the following two on 3rd February 2009:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Draft Protection of Children (Restriction on Supply of Goods) (Jersey) Law 200- (P175/2008)</i> <i>Minister for Economic Development, Date of Debate: 20th January 2009</i></li> <li>2. <i>Draft Companies (Amendment No. 3) (Jersey) Regulations 200- (P186/2008) Minister for Economic Development, Date of debate – 3rd February 2009</i></li> <li>3. <i>Draft Companies (Amendment No. 10) (Jersey) Regulations 200- (P185/2008) Minister for Economic Development, Date of debate – 3rd February 2009</i></li> </ol> <p>The Panel agreed that Members would examine the propositions individually prior to the scheduled dates of debate and communicate with the other Panel Members and officers should they wish to seek to have the items of draft legislation referred to it under Standing Order 72.</p>	MH/CL/ JM/SP/ DW
	<p><b>11. Questions to Ministers</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that the Minister for Economic Development and the Chief Minister would answer questions without notice at the States sitting on 20th January 2009.</p>	
	<p><b>12. Conflicts of Interest</b></p> <p>The Panel considered whether there were any areas where Panel Members might potentially have a conflict of interest. It was noted that the Chairman held interests in a number of Tourism related events and organisations that raised concerns of a conflict of interest should the Panel undertake work in this area. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead organiser and main shareholder of the Jersey International</li> </ul>	

	<p>Air Display</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director of Jersey Air Racing</li> <li>• Director of Aeronautique</li> <li>• Chairman (shortly President) of the Royal Air Force Association (Jersey)</li> </ul> <p>It was further noted that the Vice-Chairman was an agricultural landowner and that Deputy Wimberley was a former owner of Jersey Cycle Tours, and continued to undertake occasional paid cycle tours.</p> <p>Members were advised that if they were in any doubt as to whether they had a conflict of interest they should declare their concern, and that the Greffier of the States would be available to offer advice in this area should it be required.</p>	
	<p><b>13. Chairmen's Committee</b></p> <p>The Panel noted a paper outlining the requirements of the Chairmen's Committee with regard to information from Scrutiny Panels. It further noted that the first meeting of the Chairmen's Committee would be held on 22nd January 2008 and agreed that, following a discussion on the matter, the Chairman would represent the Panel's views to the Committee regarding the proposal for a centralised funding mechanism for Scrutiny.</p>	
	<p><b>14. Scrutiny Documentation</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that the following documents had been distributed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Draft Guide for Scrutiny Members</li> <li>2. Code of Practice for Scrutiny Panels and the Public Accounts Committee</li> <li>3. Public Engagement Strategy</li> <li>4. Financial Direction 5.1</li> <li>5. States of Jersey (Powers, Privileges and Immunities) (Scrutiny Panels, PAC and PPC) (Jersey) Regulations 2006</li> </ol>	
	<p><b>15. Next Meeting</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place on 2nd February 2009.</p>	

Signed

Date:

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Chairman  
Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel