

# Education & Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel

## PUBLIC MEETING

### Record of Meeting

Date: 30th April 2007  
Meeting 22

Present	Deputy F. J. Hill , BEM, Chairman Deputy D. W. Mezbourian, Vice-Chairman Deputy S. Pitman Deputy J. Gallichan
Apologies	
Absent	
In attendance	<p>Senator M. E. Vibert, Minister for Education, Sport and Culture (Item 1) Deputy J. B. Fox, Assistant Minister for Education, Sport and Culture (Item 1) Mr M. Lundy, Assistant Director – Schools and Colleges (Item 1) Mr J. Littlewood, Head of Finance – Education, Sport and Culture (Item 1)</p> <p>Senator W. Kinnard, Minister for Home Affairs (Item 1) Mr S. Austin-Vautier, Chief Executive Officer – Home Affairs (Item 1) Mrs E. Middleton, Finance Director – Home Affairs (Item 1)</p> <p>Deputy S. C. Ferguson, Chairman – Public Accounts Committee (Items 2 and 3) Mr. C. Swinson OBE, Comptroller and Auditor General (Item 2)</p> <p>Mr W. Millow, Scrutiny Officer Mr T. Oldham, Scrutiny Officer</p>

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
<b>[16.04.07 Item 2]</b>	<p><b>1. 2008 Annual Business Plan</b></p> <p>The Panel met separately the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture, Senator M. E. Vibert, and the Minister for Home Affairs, Senator W. Kinnard. Separate records of the meetings were produced. The Panel agreed that any further topics requiring follow up with the relevant Department would be submitted by Panel Members to the Officers by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2007.</p> <p>The Panel noted that it had received the most recent annual report for the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. It agreed that notes relating to the previous year's business plans were also very useful and that this practice should continue in future years.</p> <p>The Panel requested that the latest annual report for the Jersey Heritage Trust be identified and distributed.</p> <p>The Panel noted that a formal response to its correspondence to the Chief Minister requesting clarification on the deadline had been received. It confirmed that the deadline for the</p>	<p><b>BH/DM/JG/ SP</b></p> <p><b>TO</b></p>

	<p>formal response by Scrutiny to the Council of Ministers was the end of April. However, this was not the deadline for all scrutiny of the Annual Business Plan as this could take place up to the date of debate due in September 2007, and amendments could be lodged up to two weeks before that debate.</p> <p>The Panel agreed that it would forward questions to be considered for the meeting with the Chief Minister, Senator F.H. Walker on 14th May 2007, to the Officers by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2007.</p>	<p><b>BH/DM/JG/SP</b></p>
<p><b>[16.04.07 Item 4]</b></p>	<p><b>2. Early Years Education and Care</b></p> <p>During its meeting with the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture in relation to the Annual Business Plan, the Panel received an update on the Minister' work regarding Early Years.</p> <p>The Panel requested the Officers to circulate copies of the presentation made to the Panel on 18th April 2007 by Mr. M. Lundy, Assistant Director – School and Colleges.</p> <p>The Panel briefly met the Comptroller and Auditor General, Mr. C, Swinson OBE, and Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, Deputy S.C. Ferguson. The Comptroller and Auditor General updated the Panel about the progress of the Nursery Education report that he was preparing.</p> <p>The Panel agreed that in light of its impending Review of Early Years that it would be useful for the Officers to remain in contact with the Comptroller and Auditor General on this issue.</p> <p>Hard copies of the UK Education and Skills Select Committee Early Years Report 2000/1 and the subsequent Government Response were distributed to the Panel for inclusion in the Review folders.</p> <p>The Panel considered and agreed both the Scoping Document and Terms of Reference for the Early Years Review. It approved a preliminary budget for the Review of £15,200 that included the potential for undertaking a survey. The Panel agreed that a letter should be sent to the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture formally notifying him of the Terms of Reference for the Review. It requested that a draft media release and call for evidence should be prepared. Once the media release had been approved it should be forwarded to all States Members prior to being sent to the media.</p> <p>The Panel noted that Deputy Mezbourian would be out of the island for the three of the weeks identified in the Project Outline for public hearings, and that some of the hearing dates also clashed with school holidays. The Panel was advised that the Project Outline was only a guide and a degree of flexibility would inevitably be required throughout the course of the Review.</p> <p>That Panel agreed that it was likely to engage an expert adviser to assist during the Review and that a list of possible candidates should be drawn up for consideration. The Panel</p>	<p><b>WM/TO</b></p> <p><b>TO/WM</b></p> <p><b>WM</b></p> <p><b>TO</b></p> <p><b>TO</b></p>

	<p>noted that the preliminary budget, as approved, included a sum of £9,500 for the appointment of an adviser.</p> <p>The Panel agreed that it would work as a full Panel on the Review.</p> <p>The Panel agreed that it would endeavour to present its report by the end of October 2007.</p>	
<p><b>[02.04.07 Item 8]</b></p>	<p><b>3. Orchid Communications</b></p> <p>The Panel noted the <i>Scrutiny Public Engagement Summary</i> prepared by Orchid Communications, and further received a summary of activity report for Orchid's work with Scrutiny for the period 5<sup>th</sup> February 2007 to 30<sup>th</sup> March 2007. The Panel was advised that a questionnaire on public engagement had been prepared by Orchid for completion by Scrutiny Panels. The Officers were requested to circulate copies of the questionnaire to Panel Members.</p> <p>The Panel discussed how it had engaged with Orchid and the role that Orchid had in relation to the Panel. It noted that at the meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2007 the Chairmen's Committee had agreed that it would request the views of all Panels regarding the service provided by Orchid.</p>	<p><b>WM/TO</b></p>
	<p><b>4. Records of Previous Meetings</b></p> <p>The Panel deferred signing the records of previous meetings until the following meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2007.</p>	
	<p><b>5. Action Updates and Matters Arising</b></p> <p>The Panel noted the actions that had occurred in relation to requests made at its previous meetings.</p> <p>The Panel requested that the Officers distribute the Fort Regent Conservation Statement, as referred to by the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture in the States on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2007. It had been agreed during the discussions with the Minister earlier in the meeting that it would be forwarded by the Department.</p>	<p><b>WM/TO</b></p>
	<p><b>6. Ministerial Decisions</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that the following decisions had been made by the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture between 11<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2007:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Introduction of a Student Loans Facility for Students in Higher Education. (MD-ESC-2007-0021)</i></li> <li>• <i>Community Development Annual report 2006. (MD-ESC-2007-0020)</i></li> </ul> <p>The Panel noted that the following decisions had been made by the Minister for Home Affairs between 11<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2007:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Transfer of 2007 Budgets within the Home Affairs Department. (MD-HA-2007-0030)</i></li> <li>• <i>Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) (No 2)</i></li> </ul>	

	<p>(Jersey) Law, 200-. (MD-HA-2007-0032)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Granite Products - Revised blasting times. (MD-HA-2007-0031)</i></li> <li>• <i>Jersey Pistol Club - safe storage construction (MD-HA-2007-0029)</i></li> </ul>	
	<p><b>7. Future Meetings</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that its next scheduled meeting would occur on 14th April 2007 and that the Chief Minister would be attending at 10am.</p>	
	<p><b>8. Forthcoming Propositions</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that the following propositions had been lodged <i>au Greffe</i> for debate by the States since the Panel Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2007:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>P.52/2007 Student loans for higher education - introduction Education, Sport and Culture, Date of Debate: 5th June 2007</i></li> <li>• <i>P.53/2007 Student loans for higher education – guarantees Treasury and Resources, Date of Debate: 5th June 2007</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>[23.04.07 Item 1]</b></p>	<p><b>9. Centeniers in the Magistrate’s Court</b></p> <p>The Panel considered this matter during its discussions with the Minister for Home Affairs, at which point it was noted that the Panel had sought legal advice and that the draft report had been amended since its initial distribution to the Minister for comment.</p>	

Signed

Date:

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Chairman  
Education & Home Affairs Panel