

Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel

Record of Meeting

20th April 2016

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

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p>1. Records of meeting</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th April 2016 were approved and signed.</p>	MO
<p>Item 4 05.04.16 515/35</p>	<p>2. Licensing Law</p> <p>The Panel noted a letter sent by the Chairman to the Assistant Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture on 14th April 2016 confirming the Panel's review of the new Licensing Law. No reply had yet been received.</p>	
<p>Item 5 05.04.16 515/36</p>	<p>3. Harmful Telecommunications</p> <p>The Chairman informed the Panel that he had received two emails on this subject from members of the public, one from a local 'blogger' concerned about the possible impact of the amended legislation on free speech, and the other from a former States Member referring to UK research on the effects of similar legislation.</p> <p>The Panel considered plans for the review and potential witnesses. It was agreed that the aim would be to finalise comments on the proposition at the Panel meeting on 8th June. Bearing in mind the limited timescale and the fact that consultation on the subject had previously been carried out by the department, it was agreed that a public call for evidence would not be required. The Scrutiny Officer was asked to prepare a media release explaining the purpose of the review, and to begin background research into the effects of similar legislation in other jurisdictions.</p> <p>The Panel also discussed possible dates for receiving submissions and holding public hearings. It was agreed that initial submissions would be requested by 13th May, and public hearings could take place between 18th and 27th May.</p>	<p>MO</p> <p>MO</p>
<p>Item 4 05.04.16 515/37</p>	<p>4. Dormant Bank Accounts</p> <p>The Panel noted that the review had been approved by the Chairmen's Committee and the debate was currently scheduled to take place on</p>	MO

	26th April. The Scrutiny Officer was asked to draft a letter to the Assistant Chief Minister confirming the Panel's intention to review both this topic and Harmful Telecommunications, and referring to the need for improved communications between the department and the Panel.	
	<p>5. Medium Term Financial Plan Addition</p> <p>On the understanding that proposals for the MTFP Addition should by now be well advanced, the Panel agreed that contact should be made with Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture and the Chief Minister's Department requesting early sight of relevant information, to be followed as soon as possible by detailed briefings.</p>	MO
Item 3(b) 27.01.16	<p>6. Rural Economy Strategy (RES)</p> <p>The Scrutiny Officer had been offered a briefing by the department on the latest position with the RES. This was planned to take place on 21st April, but in view of other priorities would be postponed to a later date. The Chairman of the Environment, Health and Technical Services Panel asked if any information obtained could also be circulated to members of that Panel.</p>	MO
	<p>7. Draft Protocol for Engagement between Scrutiny Panels and the Executive</p> <p>It was agreed to defer discussion of this item to a future meeting.</p>	MO
	<p>8. Forthcoming meetings</p> <p>Next scheduled Panel meeting: 9.30am on 4th May 2016, Blampied Room, States Building</p>	MO