Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel

Meeting No. 4

8th February 2006 St. Mary's Parish Hall

The minutes exclude decisions in private session recorded elsewhere.

Present Deputy G. P. Southern, Chairman

Connétable M. K. Jackson

Deputy A. Breckon Deputy J. A. Martin Deputy K. C. Lewis

Apologies Absent

In attendance Nathan Fox, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
1.	Minutes of the Meetings of 21st December 2005 and 25th January 2006.	
	These minutes were approved.	
2.	Jersey Harbours Presentation Feedback	
	The Panel discussed a presentation received from Mr. H Le Cornu, Chief Executive Officer of Jersey Harbours on 7th February 2006 concerning the future incorporation of Jersey Harbours.	
	While it was agreed that the meeting had provided valuable information, the Panel considered that similar material could have been provided in printed form, without the need for a presentation. The Panel considered it an opportunity to be informed of the Departments attitude to incorporation, and directed officers to seek out earlier reports on the matter for balance.	NJF
	A disparity was noted between the statements made to the effect that the incorporation would see an end to 'silo thinking', and the necessity of an incorporated body to seek to maximise profits. This was particularly relevant as Jersey Harbours was a monopoly provider of unloading facilities for ferry services, and harbour dues had been cited by a ferry operator as a disincentive to continue special rate prices, which were responsible for significant on-island tourist spend. It was not considered that incorporation would be an incentive to reduce harbour dues.	NJF
	The Officer was requested to seek clarification on current SLA's. It was decided that future meetings of this nature would be more productive if the Panel had more information prior to attending. Accordingly, officers were directed to research forthcoming meeting topics beforehand and make that information available to the Panel at the appropriate time.	CleQ and NJF

3.	Forthcoming Engagements	
	The Panel received a list of forthcoming engagements, and detailed the following members to each:	
	To a meeting of the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority on 27th February 2006 – Deputy Southern and Connétable Jackson;	GS and MJ
	To a meeting of the Jersey Association of Trust Companies on 1st March 2006 – Deputy Southern and Deputy Martin; and	GS and JM
	To a meeting of the Jersey Bankers Association on 15th March 2006 - Deputy Southern and Deputy Lewis.	GS and KL
	The Panel noted the above engagements.	
4.	Advertising Information	
	The Panel was informed of the style, size, and costings of adverts placed in the Jersey Evening Post, as well as the costs of artwork and formatting.	
	The Panel noted that the cost of formatting appeared to be significant, and directed officers to determine which company the Comité des Connétables and the Parishes used for this purpose.	NJF
5.	Meeting with Departmental Advisor	
	The Panel recalled that it had formed a short-list of review topics, which included a review into the effect on the Jersey Dairy of the proposed cessation of free milk in schools.	
	In order to establish a background for this review the Panel directed officers to establish when Dr. D. McQueen, an advisor to the Department on the dairy industry, was next visiting the island.	NJF
6.	Work Programme to June 2006	
	The Panel noted the costings, timings, and broad terms of two reviews to run concurrently provisionally entitled-	
	'The Effect on the Jersey Dairy of the Cessation of Free Milk in Schools';	
	and	
	'The Fulfilment Industry and its Effect on the Local Economy'.	
	The Panel was also provided with the relevant background documents for these review topics.	GS and NJF
	The Chairman was to take these topics to the Chairman's Committee for approval as soon as possible. Officers were directed to provide the relevant documents for the Chairman's Committee's next agenda.	
	Documents:	
	Fulfilment record of assessment;	
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	Fulfilment timetable; Index and Acts relating to Fulfilment. Dairy record of assessment; Dairy timetable; Draft terms of reference; McQueen Report; Index and Acts relating to Dairy. Harbours record of assessment; Service Level Agreement. Jersey Finance Limited letter; Jersey Association of Trust Companies survey.	
7.	Travel Forms The Panel noted the possibility that it might be called upon to undertake overseas travel as an element of its research at some point, although it currently had no plans to do so. Accordingly, members completed a document providing information to allow such travel to be centrally organised and booked. Members who had been unable to complete these forms were asked to do so as soon a possible.	AM, JM and KL
8.	Date of next meeting The Panel, in a change to the previously scheduled arrangements, decided that it would be appropriate to hold its next meeting in the States building, in a room to be arranged, on 22nd February 2006. This would facilitate the Panel meeting with representatives of the Jersey Taxi Drivers Association. Officers were directed to make the necessary arrangements.	NJF

Signed	Date
Chairman Deputy G. P. Southern Economic Affairs Panel	