

# Chairmen's Committee

## Record of Meeting

Date: 21st April 2015

Present	Deputy J.A.N. Le Fondré, President and Chairman, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel Connétable J.E. Le Maistre, Chairman, Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel Deputy R. Renouf, Chairman, Health and Social Security Scrutiny Panel Deputy D. Johnson, Vice-Chairman, Environment, Housing and Technical Services Scrutiny Panel Deputy A.D. Lewis, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee
Apologies	Connétable A.S. Crowcroft, Chairman, Environment, Housing and Technical Services Scrutiny Panel Deputy L.M.C. Doublet, Vice-President and Chairman, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Absent	
In attendance	Mrs. K. Tremellen-Frost, Scrutiny Manager

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	<b>1. Records of meetings</b> The records of the meetings held on 17th March and 1st, 9th, 13th, 14th, 15th and 17th April 2015 were approved and accordingly signed.	
	<b>2. Activity Reports</b> The Committee noted the Panel and Public Accounts Committee activity reports.	
<b>465/4(14)</b>	<b>3. Privileges and Procedures Committee: update</b> The Committee considered a briefing paper on the deliberations of the above Committee.	
<b>422/10/1 (92)</b>	<b>4. States Assembly budgetary matters</b> The Committee welcomed the Greffier of the States in his capacity as Accounting Officer to consider potential future budget cuts. The Committee recalled that the Privileges and Procedures Committee had overarching responsibility for the States Assembly budget and it was noted that that Committee had agreed to consider where savings might be made in the next four years to mirror any savings targets set for ministerial departments by the Council of Ministers. The Committee considered the current breakdown of the States Assembly budget and noted that the Scrutiny function had, on a yearly basis since 2006, had a very large underspend. On this basis the Committee gave in principle approval for the budget allocated to Scrutiny to be reduced by £100,00 over a three year period.  The Greffier of the States withdrew from the meeting.	

<p><b>10.02.15</b> <b>Item 10</b> <b>510/1(5)</b></p>	<p><b>5. Code of Practice for engagement, for the purposes of Scrutiny, between elected Members conducting Scrutiny and Ministers and Assistant Ministers: legal advice</b></p> <p>The Committee welcomed H.M. Acting Attorney General to the meeting to consider the section of the existing Code of Practice for Scrutiny Panels and the Public Accounts Committee relating to legal advice.</p> <p>Following some deliberation, the Acting Attorney General agreed to consider two specific areas of the existing Code, namely: the restriction on Panels not to record that legal advice had been sought, (notwithstanding the fact that there was an acceptance by the Committee that legal advice received should not be disclosed) and the possible inclusion of a phrase to state that briefings from the Law Officers Department could be requested.</p> <p>The Acting Attorney General withdrew from the meeting.</p>	
<p><b>512/25</b></p>	<p><b>6. Financial Directions Review: Public Accounts Committee</b></p> <p>The Committee received and noted a scoping document and terms of reference in relation to the above review.</p>	
	<p><b>7. Financial Report- first quarter</b></p> <p>The Committee noted the financial report of the first quarter 2015.</p>	