

## Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2005  
(Introductory meeting held in private session)

Present Deputy P J D Ryan, Chairman  
 Senator J L Perchard  
 Connétable J L S Gallichan  
 Connétable D J Murphy  
 Deputy J Gallichan

Apologies  
 Absent

In attendance Mrs K Tremellen-Frost, Scrutiny Manager  
 Mr M Haden, Scrutiny Officer  
 Miss S Power, Scrutiny Officer

Item No	Agenda matter	Action
1	<b>Welcome/Introduction - Chairman</b> The Chairman welcomed the Panel to the first Panel meeting.	
2	<b>Panel's remit covering Chief Minister's Department and Treasury and Resources Ministry</b> The Panel was informed that the Chairman had arranged to meet with the Chief Minister and the Treasury and Resources Minister on the 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2006 to discuss future working practices between Corporate Services. The Panel requested an agenda be prepared for this meeting. The Panel requested a list of all non-executive areas that fall under the Corporate Services Panel remit.	<b>Chairman</b>  <b>Officers</b>  <b>Officers</b>
3	<b>Objectives and priorities of Chief Minister's Department and Treasury and Resources Ministry</b> The Panel agreed that this matter should be deferred until the Departmental Business Plans were available at the beginning of January 2006.	
4	<b>Budget Scrutiny process</b> The Panel decided to defer this matter until the Departmental Business Plans were available. The Panel agreed that the Chairman would inform the Chairmen's Committee that the Panel considered that any scrutiny of the budget process should fall under the remit of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), however the Panel would be willing to scrutinise any political issues associated with the budget.	<b>Chairman</b>
5	<b>Potential legislative scrutiny</b> The Panel considered a list of forthcoming legislation drawn from the Legislation Programme 2006 and agreed that the Residents Registration Law should be highlighted as a potential review topic.	

<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Potential scrutiny of International Agreements and Conventions</b></p> <p>The Panel noted the most recent progress report on international conventions and agreements for the period 1st October 2004 to 31st March 2005 and agreed that potential areas of interest would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connexion with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea 1996.</li> <li>• Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.</li> <li>• International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage 2001.</li> </ul> <p>The officers were directed to request further information on these issues.</p>	<p><b>Officers</b></p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Indications of interest from Panel members</b></p> <p>The Panel proposed the following potential review topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GST – to review the implementation and the exemptions involved with the new taxation structure, and to initially look at exemptions in place in other jurisdictions.</li> <li>• 20% means 20%.</li> <li>• Corporate taxation – 0/10%</li> <li>• Look-through provisions on taxation</li> <li>• Public sector pension provision – check whether this is being looked into by PAC</li> <li>• States department's paying rates</li> <li>• Financial Services Commission</li> <li>• Property portfolio</li> <li>• Fulfilment industry</li> </ul> <p>The Panel directed officers to undertake preliminary fact finding investigations on these issues.</p> <p>The Panel noted two further proposals: one from a member of the public regarding Jersey's compliance with human rights obligations, carried over from the Shadow Scrutiny period; and another regarding data protection arising from the Shadow Panel report on legal advice.</p>	<p><b>Officers</b></p>
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Methods of working</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule of meetings</li> </ul> <p>The Panel agreed to meet formally once a month and informally two weeks before the formal meetings. These meetings would take place on Thursdays of States weeks at 9.30 am.</p> <p>The first meeting date would be on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2006, which was the second training day on developing the work programme, beginning at 9.00 am. The Panel requested a list of dates and times of future meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact with media</li> </ul> <p>The Panel agreed that the Chairman would be responsible for all contact with the media. It was also agreed that the Panel would provide the media with a monthly press update.</p>	<p><b>Officers</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact with public</li> </ul> <p>The Panel agreed that it would be vital to respond individually to all proposed review topics put forward by the public.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact with departments through the Scrutiny office</li> </ul> <p>The Panel agreed that all contact with departments should come through the Scrutiny office.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact with Ministers</li> </ul> <p>The Panel agreed to invite Ministers to a public hearing on a quarterly basis. This arrangement would be reassessed once topic reviews were in progress.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback from first training session</li> </ul> <p>The Panel provided highly favourable feedback regarding the training session held on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005.</p> <p>The Panel requested a copy of the evaluation form for the training session be sent to them via email.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expectations for session in January</li> </ul> <p>The Panel agreed that they would appreciate training on the structure of public meetings during the next training session on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 2006.</p>	<p><b>Officers Members</b></p> <p><b>Officers</b></p>
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Press release</b></p> <p>The Panel requested that a press release be drafted by the officers.</p>	<b>MH</b>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Legal Advice</b></p> <p>The Panel discussed the issue of legal advice which was to be considered by the Chairmen's Committee at one of its first meetings in 2006. It was agreed that it was vital for the Panels to have access to advice given to the Executive. The Panel expected the Ministers to be fully co-operative in providing information required in the course of a review.</p>	<b>Chairman</b>

Signature

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Chairman, Corporate Services Panel