

Chairmen's Committee

Record of Meeting

Date: 22nd November 2016

Present	Deputy S.M. Brée, Chairman, Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel Deputy R. Renouf, Chairman, Health and Social Security Scrutiny Panel Deputy D. Johnson, Chairman, Environment, Housing and Technical Services Scrutiny Panel Deputy A.D. Lewis, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee Deputy T.A. Vallois, Vice-Chairman, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Apologies	Deputy J.A.N. Le Fondré, President and Chairman, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel Deputy L.M.C. Doublet, Vice-President and Chairman, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Absent	
In attendance	Mr T. Oldham, Scrutiny Manager

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	1. Records of meetings The Committee approved the records of meetings held on 18th, 26th and 28th October 2016, which would be signed by the President.	
18.10.16 Item 2	2. Activity Reports The Committee considered Panel and PAC activity reports, noting in particular recent instances of Panel members lodging, in an independent capacity, Propositions relating and referring to ongoing Panel work. It agreed to discuss the matter further at its next meeting.	TO
18.10.16 Item 6 511/2/1	3. Residential Property Transactions Review Panel Deputy D. Johnson, Chairman of the Review Panel, updated the Committee about the progress of the Review. It was noted that the agreed end date for the allocation of an Officer resource to the Panel had passed, and that the Officer who had been working on behalf of the Panel had since left the States Greffe. The Committee discussed the issue of the Officer resource with the Scrutiny Manager and considered the remaining work identified by the Chairman and Panel members present. It was noted that the Panel intended to hold up to two more meetings with stakeholders, and present a report in advance of the Christmas recess. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the of the Environment, Housing and Technical Services Scrutiny Panel proposed that the Officer allocated to their Panel might have the capacity to work with the Review Panel to assist it to complete its work within the suggested timeframe. It was agreed that the Officer resource proposal would be followed up by the Scrutiny Manager.	TO
	4. Review Panel Proposal: Medicinal Cannabis	

	<p>The Committee considered a Review Panel topic proposal from Deputy T.A. Vallois on behalf of Deputy M. Tadier, regarding medicinal cannabis. It recalled <i>P.128/2014 Cannabis: possession of cannabis for treatment purposes – petition</i> lodged by Deputy M. Tadier, which was rejected by the States, and agreed that a review was unlikely to lead to a different outcome during this Assembly. The Committee agreed, with the exception of Deputy T.A. Vallois, that it would not therefore establish a Review Panel.</p> <p>It was, however, recognised that the issue raised was not without merit for a Scrutiny review at a more appropriate time, and that it was wide ranging matter. It was as agreed that Chairmen would remain mindful of the subject and of potential opportunities to ask related questions during other reviews or quarterly hearings.</p> <p>It was agreed that Deputy T.A. Vallois would relay the decision of the Committee to Deputy M. Tadier.</p>	TV
	<p>5. Provision of Offices for Scrutiny Chairman</p> <p>The Chairman of the PAC proposed that the Chairmen’s Committee should to write to the Greffier of the States to request that work be undertaken to identify and provide dedicated office space, and potentially associated staff resources such as Personal Assistants and researchers, for Scrutiny Chairmen.</p> <p>Whilst the Committee did not agree that writing to request the provision of such office space and associated staff resources would be justified, it did agree that there was merit in improving facilities for Members more generally, not least the provision of a parliamentary library and research facility. It was noted that such a facility would also be of value to Scrutiny, complementing the resources already provided to Scrutiny Panels through the Scrutiny Office.</p> <p>It was agreed that an update would be requested from the Deputy Greffier of the States about progress made by the Privileges and Procedures Committee with regard to a recent ‘CPA Benchmark Report’, which included matters relating to parliamentary facilities.</p>	TO
	<p>6. Future Meetings</p> <p>In the absence of the President due a family bereavement, the Committee agreed to defer the following agenda items until its next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocol for Engagement between Scrutiny Panels/PAC and the Executive • Panel Names and Remits <p>The Committee’s next meeting was scheduled to take place on 6th December at 9.30am, Le Capelain Room, States Building.</p>	