

SOCIAL AFFAIRS SCRUTINY PANEL
Meeting held on Thursday 26th January 2006 at 9:30am

Present	Deputy F.J. Hill, B.E.M., Chairman Deputy J.A. Martin, Vice Chairman Deputy D.W. Mezbourian Deputy A.E. Pryke Deputy S. Pitman
Apologies	
Absent	
In attendance	Mrs. K. Tremellen-Frost, Scrutiny Manager [Part of Item 2] Mr. C. Ahier, Scrutiny Officer Mr. W. Millow, Scrutiny Officer

Item No. and Ref. Back	Agenda matter	Action
1.	<p>Sexual Offences (Jersey) Law 200-</p> <p>Further to the States decision of 18th January 2006 to refer <i>Sexual Offences (Jersey) Law 200-(P.196/2005)</i> to the Social Affairs and Corporate Services Scrutiny Panels, the Panel considered the draft version of the statement to be made by the Chairman at the States sitting of 31st January 2006.</p> <p>The Panel met with the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel to discuss each Panel's proposed course of action relating to the referral from the States. The Social Affairs Panel was informed that the Corporate Services Panel was minded to accept the <i>Sexual Offences (Jersey) Law 200- (P.196/2005)</i> as a review topic. It was further informed that this review would focus on Jersey's international obligations with respect to the European Convention of Human Rights and would have a projected duration of six weeks.</p> <p>The Panel, in conjunction with the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel, met with Mr. L. Small, Director, Jersey Youth Reform Team. Both Panels explained their proposed courses of action regarding the referral to Scrutiny of <i>Sexual Offences (Jersey) Law 200- (P.196/2005)</i>. Mr. Small advised the Panels of the situation regarding his pending case in the European Court of Human Rights.</p>	
2.	<p>Consideration of Work Programme for 2006</p> <p>The Panel considered the following suggested topics and agreed that they would not be subjected to a</p>	

review:

- Implementation of the recommendations of the Review of Cardiology Service
- Services for elderly tenants, Fuel Poverty and Rent Structure [considered as one topic]
- Tenant participation and re-branding of States tenants [considered as one topic]

The Panel considered the following suggested topics and agreed that they might merit the Panel's attention in the future, subject to further information:[\[KTF1\]](#)

- New Directions (i.e. "the redesign of the health and social care system")
- [\[KTF2\]](#) Implementation of a Public Health Strategy
- Implementation of the recommendations of the Review of Longer Term Care
- In-Island Higher Education
- Introduction of student loans
- Further Education provision
- 14-19 Curriculum

The Panel considered the following suggested topics and agreed that a Scrutiny Topic Scoping Document would be completed for each one. The Panel assigned responsibility for the completion of each Scoping Document (indicated in brackets) and agreed that the Documents would be ready for the Panel meeting of 6th February 2006:

- Income Support (Deputy J.A. Martin)
- Provision of a General Practitioners out-of-hours co-operative service (Deputy A.E. Pryke)
- *Criminal Justice Policy* (P.201/2005) (Chairman and Deputy D.W. Mezbourian)
- Implementation of the recommendations of the Wool Report on Health Needs in H.M.P. La Moye (Chairman)
- *Sexual Offences (Jersey) Law 200-* (P.196/2005) (Deputy S. Pitman)
- Youth Service (Deputy S. Pitman)
- Early Childhood Education and Care (Deputy D.W. Mezbourian)
- *Housing Trading Organisation: establishment* (P.211/2005) (Deputies J.A. Martin and A.E. Pryke)

JM

AP

BH/DM

BH

SP

SP

DM

JM/AP

It was noted that Income Support and the GP out-of-hours system were those topics most likely to merit

the Panel's initial attention.

It was noted that the Panel's proposed Work Programme for 2006 would need to be ready by 10th February 2006 in order that it could subsequently be considered by the Chairmen's Committee on 17th February 2006.

CA/WM

The Panel agreed that each Minister within its remit should be informed of the Panel's decisions on those matters relating to that Minister. This would be undertaken once the proposed Work Programme had been viewed by the Chairmen's Committee.

CA/WM

The Panel requested the Officers to contact the following Departments in order to obtain certain information:

- Department of Social Security: It was agreed that a request should be made for a draft version of the Law regarding the proposed Income Support system. It was also agreed that a request should be made for the background evidence relating to the proposed five-year residency requirement for access to Income Support.
- Department of Home Affairs: It was agreed that an earlier request for Business Plans for the individual sections of the Department of Home Affairs should be followed up. Furthermore, the Panel agreed that it would like to receive an update on the response by the Department of Home Affairs to Recommendation 18 of *Responding to Drug Use* (SR1/2004) regarding H.M.P. La Moye. It was also agreed that the Panel would like to see a draft version of the revised Criminal Justice Policy when it became available.
- Department of Education, Sport and Culture: The Panel requested further information on the proposed review of the Youth Service. It agreed that it would like to meet with Mrs. S. Costigan, Principal Youth Officer. It also agreed that Deputy S. Pitman would approach the Youth Service for information on the proposed review.

SP

The Panel considered calling for suggestions of review topics from the Public. It was noted that the four Scrutiny Panels had not co-ordinated their actions in this regard but that this did not negate the

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	possibility of a single request from all Scrutiny Panels being made under the aegis of the Chairmen's Committee.	
3. [23/01/06 Item 2]	<p>Future Meetings</p> <p>The next meeting would take place on Monday 6th February 2006. Subject to confirmation, the meeting would occur at Trinity Parish Hall.</p> <p>The Panel recalled that a visit to the Department of Housing had been arranged for Monday 30th January at 2:00pm.</p>	

SIGNED

..... Date:.....

CHAIRMAN, SOCIAL AFFAIRS SCRUTINY PANEL

[\[KTF1\]](#)Might
[\[KTF2\]](#)WW