

Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

PUBLIC MEETING

Record of Meeting

Date: **8th October 2007**

Meeting Number: **48**

Present	Deputy P J D Ryan, Chairman Connétable J L S Gallichan Deputy C Egré
Apologies	Connétable D Murphy
In attendance	Mr M Haden, Scrutiny Officer Miss S Power, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
1.	<p>GST Statement –</p> <p>The Panel noted the Chairman's statement to be made to the House on the 9th October, with regard to the proposed temporary zero-rating of hotel accommodation contained in the draft GST Regulations.</p>	
2. Item 4 25.09.07	<p>Scrutiny of the Business Plan –</p> <p>The Panel considered the draft report for the Chairmen's Committee on Scrutiny of the States Business Plan, and highlighted the following conclusions it wished to be included in the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The issue of confidentiality surrounding the Panel's briefings on the Business Plan was prohibitive in terms of the involvement of all Scrutiny Panels in reviewing the business planning process. In future it would be of greater benefit for all Chairmen, or representatives of the Panel, to be invited to the briefings received by the Panel, and then feedback the information to their respective Panels. This would help to accelerate Scrutiny's involvement and focus on the business planning process. • The timing of Scrutiny's involvement in the business planning process was a further issue, as the publication of the Draft States Business Plan came at a busy time for States members with a great deal of Public Business on the Order Paper just before the summer recess. Earlier involvement would help to increase Scrutiny's involvement and contribution to this process. • The boundary between the Public Accounts Committee and Scrutiny's involvement in reviewing the business planning process would benefit from further clarification. • The use of an independent adviser in reviewing the business planning process should be pursued and funded from within existing budgets. The potential to combine this independent expert adviser with the training of Scrutiny members should be given further consideration. • Effective Scrutiny of the business planning process would help to 	MH

	highlight the main issues that Panels should subsequently consider reviewing and incorporating into their annual work programmes.	
3. Item 9 26.07.07	<p>Jersey's Overseas Aid –</p> <p>The Panel noted the response from the Jersey Overseas Aid Commission to the Panel's report, presented to the States on the 18th September 2007. It was agreed that this response should be discussed with the Chief Minister at the public meeting scheduled for the 25th October 2007, and requested for the Scrutiny Officer to incorporate this issue into the question plan accordingly.</p>	SP
4. Item 8 17.09.07	<p>Zero/Ten Review –</p> <p>The Panel agreed that as Senator Perchard, previous chairman of the Zero/Ten Review, was no longer a member of the Panel, the remainder of this review should be undertaken by the full Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel.</p> <p>The Panel noted that depending on the date for the States Debate on the draft Shareholder Legislation, the Chairman may be attending a Scrutiny Conference. It was therefore requested for the Scrutiny Officer to establish the date of the States Debate, and if necessary to contact the Chairman of the Privileges and Procedures Committee to request for this item to be taken as the first item of business, to ensure the Chairman would be present.</p>	SP
5.	<p>Scrutiny Newsletter –</p> <p>The Panel received its draft contribution for the second issue of the Scrutiny Newsletter, and agreed that any comments should be sent to the Scrutiny Officer by the 12th October 2007.</p>	Panel Members
6.	<p>Ministerial Decisions –</p> <p>The Panel noted that in future all Ministerial Decisions would be distributed to Members weekly by the Panel's administrator.</p>	
7.	<p>Council of Ministers' papers –</p> <p>The Panel received confidential copies of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Share Transfer Property Transactions Tax b. Environmental Taxes <p>The Panel requested for the documents to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting, to provide Members with the opportunity to consider the content.</p>	SP
8. Item 2c 17.09.07	<p>Corporate Management Board –</p> <p>The Panel discussed the concerns highlighted at its meeting on the 26th July with regard to the role of the Corporate Management Board, and particularly in terms of the political influence of this body of officers. The Panel reiterated its view that an objective assessment of the Corporate Management Board was necessary.</p>	

Signed:

Date:

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Chairman
Deputy P J D Ryan