Chairmen's Committee

Record of Meeting

Date: 10th February 2015

Present	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			
	Connétable J.E. Le Maistre, Chairman, Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel			
	Deputy A.D. Lewis, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee			
	Deputy R. Renouf, Chairman, Health and Social Security Scrutiny Panel			
	(except items 1 and part of 2)			
Apologies	Connétable A.S. Crowcroft, Chairman, Environment, Housing and			
	Technical Services Scrutiny Panel.			
Absent				
In attendance	Mrs. K. Tremellen-Frost, Scrutiny Manager			

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	1. Records of meetings	
	The records of the meetings held on 13th, 15th and 30th January 2015 were approved and accordingly signed.	
	2. Privileges and Procedures Committee: update	
465/4(14)	The Committee considered the following two matters:-	
	Review of States Procedures.	
	The Committee agreed that it wished it be known to the Privileges and Procedures Committee that there should not be a transparent vote for Ministers. It also agreed that it would be useful to have the benefit of comparison with the procedures in other jurisdictions.	
	Web-streaming of meetings of the States.	
	The Committee agreed that, whilst the principle was sound, given the large structural deficit and number of other priorities, it would be inappropriate to allocate money to such matters in the current economic climate.	
28.11.14 Item 1	3. Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) – review: Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel.	
513/45	The Committee was advised that the Panel was undertaking a short piece of work to inform the forthcoming in-Committee debate. It was noted that the Committee needed to discuss Scrutiny's approach to reviewing the MTFP in general and this would be considered at its next scheduled meeting.	

	4. Transfer of Functions: Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel.	
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513/1/1(2)	The Committee noted that the Chief Minister was currently reviewing the above and that there was a possibility that some areas might be proposed for transferal and others not. Clarification had been requested.	
15.01.215 Item 1	5. Ports Incorporation: Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel	
515/31	It was noted that the Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel was to have a briefing the following week after which it would be able to progress with its review. The Committee noted the proposed timetable for debate and agreed that there was insufficient time for scrutiny to undertake the very thorough piece of work required on this important matter.	
13.01.15 Item 9	6. Special Educational Needs: Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel	
516/42	The Committee noted that due to time restraints this review would not start before the beginning of March.	
	7. Prison Board of Governors: Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel	
516/43	The Committee noted that, following a visit to H.M. La Moye Prison, the Panel would need to undertake a more detailed review into the above than it had previously anticipated.	
	8. Sex Discrimination Legislation: Health and Social Security Scrutiny Panel	
517/1/1(4)	The Committee noted that the above piece of legislation was subject to a public consultation exercise. The Panel had agreed to consider the legislative aspect as opposed to whether it was fit for purpose. The tight timescale was noted. The Chairman, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel expressed a wish to be involved in this review.	
13.01.15	9. Public Accounts Committee: membership	
Item 12 512/1(1)	The Committee noted that the above Committee was now fully constituted. It was also noted that it had been undertaking a desktop study into the background of the issues which led to Port Galots.	
13.01.15 Item 6	10. Code of Practice for engagement, for the purposes of Scrutiny, between elected Members conducting Scrutiny and Ministers and Assistant Ministers	
510/1(5)	The Committee considered the draft Code of Practice for engagement, for the purposes of Scrutiny, between elected Members conducting Scrutiny and Ministers and Assistant Ministers, as determined by the previous Chairmen's Committee.	
	Some minor amendments were made and it was agreed that the section on Declarations on Perceptions of interest was better placed in the Scrutiny "working" Code.	
	In relation to point 17 which stated:-	
	" in developing a balanced work programme, the Panels will take account as far as possible of the following main roles of Scrutiny, namely – Policy"	

	The Committee considered emphasizing that "policy" included all aspects of policy, namely in formulation and post-formulation. The Committee agreed to continue consideration of the Code at its next scheduled meeting.	
13.01.15 Item 16	11. Public Engagement	
510/3(7)	The Committee welcomed Mr. C. Journeaux, Communications Director, Betley Whitehorne Image to give a presentation on possible avenues for public engagement.	