

Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel

Meeting No. 33

24th January 2007

Blampied Room, States Building

Present Deputy G. P. Southern, Chairman
Connétable M. K. Jackson
Deputy J. A. Martin
Deputy K. C. Lewis
Apologies Deputy A. Breckon
In attendance Nathan Fox, Scrutiny Officer

| Ref Back | Agenda matter | Action |
|---|---|------------|
| 1. | Minutes The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2006 were considered and approved. | NJF |
| 2. Item 2 10th Jan 2007 | Work Programme for 2007 The Panel recalled that it had previously considered several options for the next topic to be undertaken, and that it had deferred the decision until this meeting. The Panel received a briefing from the officer in respect of the Economic Development Department's retail strategy, and the objections raised by the Chamber of Commerce to the proposed increase in retail space in the Island. The Panel was also briefed on work carried out concerning the benefit of a UK supermarket setting up in the island. The Panel considered that further details should be provided as to the implications of the retail strategy, the arrival of a UK chain retailer, and the Chamber of Commerce objections. The officer was directed to fully scope the subject, and to provisionally plan a 10 – 12 week review, to be considered by the Panel before its next meeting. Deputy Lewis expressed concerns that the proposed increase in retail space might affect his business, and that this might preclude him from taking part in a review on the subject. The Chairman advised that he remain part of the process for the moment and ask the Bailiff for a ruling on the matter at a later date. It was agreed that Deputy Lewis's interests were marginal. | NJF |

| | | |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| <p>3.</p> <p>Item 3</p> <p>10th</p> <p>Jan</p> <p>2007</p> | <p>Letter to the Economic Development Minister in respect of a proposed finance briefing</p> <p>The Panel recalled that it had directed that a letter be sent to the Economic Development Minister requesting that a briefing on the finance industry should be provided to the Panel at one of its regular meetings, as early as possible in 2007.</p> <p>The Panel was informed that no response had yet been received, and the officer was directed to pursue the matter.</p> | <p>NJF</p> |
| <p>4.</p> <p>Item 4</p> <p>10th</p> <p>Jan</p> <p>2007</p> | <p>Dairy Review – draft report</p> <p>The Panel recalled that it had delegated authority to Deputy Breckon as the Chairman of the Economic Affairs sub-Panel (Dairy Review) to finalise the report and bring it to the States in the name of the Panel. Deputy Breckon was also to act as rapporteur in any debate on the subject.</p> <p>The Panel noted that the report was now completed,. And would be presented to the States as S.R.4/2007 on 25th January 2007.</p> <p>The Panel noted that there were comments to be lodged by the Sub-Panel on two propositions, P.170/2006 – ‘Draft Howard Davis Farm (Partial Abrogation of Covenant) (Jersey) Law 200-’and P.5/2007 – ‘Relocation of Jersey Dairy - investigation into alternative sites’.</p> <p>The Panel delegated authority to Deputy Breckon as Chairman of the Sub-Panel to approve these comments, subject to approval by the Sub-Panel.</p> | <p>AB, NJF</p> |
| <p>5.</p> <p>Item 5</p> <p>10th</p> <p>Jan</p> <p>2007</p> | <p>Jersey Telecom review briefing</p> <p>The Panel recalled that the Economic Affairs Sub-Panel (Telecoms Privatisation) had encountered difficulties regarding the obtaining of relevant documentation from the Treasury and Resources Department, from the Economic Development Department and from the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority. In particular, the Sub-Panel had been informed that it would not be able to access the report of the Economic Advisor until 8th February 2007. Having analyzed material received to date, the Sub-Panel had determined that, without access to the report of the Economic Adviser, the Scrutiny Panel would simply be unable to present to the States a comprehensive assessment of the proposal to sell Jersey Telecom.</p> <p>The report was therefore no longer to be to be presented to the States on 30th January 2007, and the Chairman commented that he would inform the States of this by means of a suitable statement, to be made on 30th January 2007. The Panel endorsed the Chairman’s approach and noted that the Chairman would circulate a copy of his statement to Panel members on or before 29th January 2007.</p> | <p>GS, IC</p> |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| 6. | Date of next meeting The Panel agreed to hold its next meeting on 7th February 2007. | |
|----|--|--|

Signed

Date

.....
Chairman Deputy G. P. Southern
Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel

.....