

Public Accounts Committee

Record of Meeting

Date: 11th April 2016

Present	Connétable C.H. Taylor Deputy J.A. Martin Deputy S.M. Wickenden (Acting Chairman) Mr R.J. Parker Mr M. Robinson
Apologies	Deputy A. Lewis, Mr G. Drinkwater
In attendance	Mrs. K. McConnell, Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) Ms C. Tomlinson, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	1. Apologies Apologies were received from Mr G. Drinkwater and the Chairman	AL
	2. Minutes The Committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 7 th March 2016.	CT
	3. Declarations of Interest Mr M. Robinson agreed to withdraw from the Review on Travel and Accommodation expenses as he was a States' senior Officer at the material times.	CT
	4. Visit The Panel agreed to meet with the National Audit Office Director of Parliamentary Relations on 1 st July in Jersey to discuss topics of mutual interest.	CT
	5. Next meeting The Committee noted its next meeting would be on 16 th May 2016 at 12:30.	CT
512/28	6. Financial Management The Committee noted the follow-up responses to its public hearing, from the Chief Officer, Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture Department (EDTS&C), dated 18 th March 2016, from the Treasurer of the States, dated 31 st March 2016 and from the Chief Officer, Health and Social Services Department dated 24 th March 2016, and agreed to incorporate their statements onto the final report.	CT
	7. JT – States as Shareholder The Committee noted a further response from the Minister for Treasury and Resources, dated 9 th March 2016. It agreed it	CT

	would request further information including a report by Oxera, and the high-level policy document mentioned in the correspondence. It also noted the C&AG was undertaking a review into Arms-Length Organisations (ALOs) and agreed it would not undertake its own review at this time.	
512/30	<p>8. Future potential review topics – Travel and Accommodation</p> <p>The Committee noted arrangements for the first public hearing regarding Financial Direction 5.7 Travel and Accommodation expenditure of States officers, together with a draft question plan for the witnesses, the States of Jersey Chief Executive Officer (Chief Executive) and the Treasurer of the States (Treasurer). It noted a meeting had been held with the Chief Executive, on 1st April 2016, attended by Deputy Wickenden and the Scrutiny Officer, and a number of documents had been requested in advance of the public hearing, scheduled for 15th April 2016. It accepted that the Chief Officer of EDTS&C should not be called as a witness whilst his Department was subject to an internal review.</p>	CT
512/29	<p>9. Fuel Farm Lease</p> <p>The Committee noted that arrangements for the Public Hearing would have to be changed due to availability of witnesses and relevant documentation. It agreed to postpone the hearing until May, on a date to be confirmed. It also agreed that the Group Chief Executive Officer, Ports of Jersey, and Director of Property Holdings should be called as witnesses to the first session and the Scrutiny Officer should make arrangements to view the correspondence leading up to the renewal of the fuel farm lease.</p>	CT
AE Article 37 512/1/1(6)	<p>10. C&AG – FOI Report</p> <p>The Committee noted a report on Freedom of Information published on 17th March 2016 and agreed to request a response to the action plan from the Chief Executive.</p>	CT
QE Article 37 515/1/1(1)	<p>11. C&AG – Jersey Audit Office Audit Plan</p> <p>The C&AG presented a brief confidential update on the progress made.</p>	
QE Article 37 515/1/1(1)	<p>12. C&AG – Compromise Agreements and e-Gov</p> <p>The C&AG presented a brief confidential update and project specification on compromise agreements and eGov and the Scrutiny Officer was asked to request from the Chief Executive and the Treasurer a response to the recommendations of both reports, once published.</p>	CT