

Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel

Record of Meeting

19th November 2014

Present	Connétable J.E. Le Maistre, Chairman Connétable M.J. Paddock Deputy S.M. Brée Deputy D. Johnson
Apologies	
Absent	
In attendance	Mr. M. Orbell, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	1. Vice-Chairman	
515/1(1)	The Panel agreed to appoint Deputy Brée as Vice-Chairman.	MO
	2. Working Practices	
515/1/1(2)	The Panel discussed preferences for future working practices. It was agreed that the Panel would meet fortnightly on Wednesday mornings of non-States weeks, with meetings to start at 9.30am. It was further agreed that scheduled meetings would be held in private; hearings would be held in public. Members requested hard copies of all papers required for meetings.	MO MO
	The Panel noted that separate early briefings with the Minister for Economic Development and officers of Financial Services would be required, and identified 1st and 4th December as possible dates. The Scrutiny Officer was asked to contact the department to make suitable arrangements.	MO
	3. Conflicts of Interest	
515/1/1(7)	The Panel discussed areas where individual members might potentially be conflicted in their Scrutiny roles owing to personal or business interests. The Chairman indicated that he would consider himself to be conflicted in matters relating to the Rural Economy Strategy; however, it was noted that he might be able to contribute to a review on this topic as a witness. Deputy Johnson informed the Panel that he was closely related to the head of the Internal Audit Department, although it was not expected that this would create a conflict of interests. It was noted that the Deputy had previously worked in the field of financial services.	MO MO
	4. Scrutiny Training	
510/1(3)	Members were reminded of the Scrutiny training arranged for 2nd and 3rd December, and all agreed to attend if possible. (The Chairman indicated that he might miss a small part of the training owing to prior commitments.)	MO
	The Panel considered proposals for Scrutiny Panels to visit the House of Commons and Portcullis House to view relevant Select Committees	

	in action and meet Members and officers. It was noted that arrangements would need to be made soon, as advice had been received that all visits would need to be completed by February 2015 because of the forthcoming UK General Election. All Panel members expressed an interest, and it was agreed that they would prefer to pay for the visit themselves, notwithstanding that such visits were considered to be beneficial to Scrutiny and would normally be funded centrally. The Scrutiny Officer was asked to investigate possible arrangements and report back to the Panel, if possible avoiding dates between 12th and 19th January 2015 when the Chairman would not be available.	MO
515/1/1(1)	5. Legacy Report and Work Programme Members considered the legacy report of the outgoing Panel and discussed possible topic areas for future work. Topics considered included retail; licensing laws; the Innovation Fund; digital skills; and efficiency savings. The Scrutiny Officer was asked to request updates on the Innovation Fund, Incorporation of Ports of Jersey, the Jersey Aircraft Registry and Tourism as part of the Panel's first briefing from the Minister for Economic Development. It was suggested that the Panel might request a meeting with Mr. K. Keen and Mr. J. Henwood in the New Year to discuss developments concerning Tourism. The Scrutiny Officer was also asked to collate information received by the previous Economic Affairs Panel with regard to the Incorporation of Ports of Jersey, for circulation to members by way of internet links.	MO MO MO
	6. Forthcoming meetings Subject to arrangements to be confirmed for Panel briefings the next Panel meeting would take place on 1st or 4th December 2014.	MO