

Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Minutes of 11th meeting held on Thursday 13th April 2006
Blampied Room, States Building

Present Deputy P J D Ryan, Chairman
 Senator J L Perchard, Vice-Chairman
 Connétable J L S Gallichan (item 9 onwards)
 Connétable D Murphy (up to item 9)
 Deputy J. Gallichan

In attendance Mr M Haden, Scrutiny Officer
 Miss S Power, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
1.	Minutes – The Panel approved the Minutes of the meetings held on 24 th and 30 th March 2006.	
2.	Quarterly financial report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Panel’s expenditure for first three months – The Panel noted this document. b. Expenditure on the Age of Consent review – The Panel noted this document. 	
3.	Chairman’s report - The Panel received notes of the weekly briefing meeting with Chairman, dated 5th April 2006.	
4. Item 6 30.03.06	Draft States Strategic Plan <p>The Panel received the update report from Deputy Gallichan. As a result of the workload involved with the Panel’s scrutiny of the Fiscal Strategy, it was agreed to confine its analysis of the draft Strategic Plan solely to the proposed financial framework, which would be linked to the scrutiny of the States Business Plan and Budget.</p> <p>The Panel raised several questions concerning the proposed financial framework, and requested for a Public Meeting to be arranged with the Minister for Treasury and Resources on the 18th May 2006 in order for these questions to be addressed. The Panel agreed that a scoping document highlighting the rationale and objectives of this review should be drafted, and reported to the Chairmen’s Committee meeting on 20th April 2006.</p>	SP SP
5.	Scrutiny Topic Proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Civil Partnerships – The Panel agreed that this was a matter for consideration by the Minister for Home Affairs or the Legislation Advisory Panel rather than a Scrutiny Panel. b. Tax allowances for non-married couples – The Panel requested for a response to be drafted to Mr Romeril stating that it had conducted preliminary enquiries into this issue, however as it had now finalised its work programme it will be unable to take this matter any further. 	SP SP
6.	Communication flow from Chairmen’s Committee to Panels – <p>The Panel agreed that it would like to receive a briefing paper highlighting the main points discussed and any action points arising from the Chairmen’s Committee meetings.</p>	

	<p>The Panel also made the following comments based on the contents of the example Chairmen's Committee briefing sheet provided, dated 24th March 2006:</p> <p>Scrutiny Website Action Group (SWAG) Deputy Gallichan agreed to become a member of SWAG.</p> <p>Comptroller and Auditor General – advice to Scrutiny The Panel agreed that it would welcome the C&AG's advice, specifically in terms of queries it had with regard to the financial framework of the draft Strategic Plan. Officers to draft a letter acknowledging this, and requesting a mutually convenient meeting date.</p>	MH
7.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>a. Jersey Finance Limited – The Panel noted this correspondence.</p> <p>b. Deputy David Jones – The Panel noted this correspondence.</p>	
8.	<p>Fiscal Strategy Reviews</p> <p>a. Goods and Services Tax – draft Law – The Panel received and approved the scoping document; estimate of resource requirements; and the draft timetable for this review. The Panel was also provided with draft terms of reference, and agreed that the Chairman and Connétable Gallichan should amend these, and contact Mr R Teather for his advice on their content, before the Chairmen's Committee meeting on the 20th April 2006.</p> <p>b. 'Look Through' arrangements - The Panel received the scoping document and estimate of resource requirements for this review. The Panel considered the possibility of a joint call for evidence with the Treasury & Resources Department, but decided that the Panel should call for evidence independently, in addition to requesting access to all information received from the Treasury & Resources Department consultation exercise. Further to this amendment being made to the scoping document, the Panel approved both documents.</p> <p>c. Engagement of an expert adviser</p> <p>i. The Panel was informed that Mr R Teather had been appointed as the expert adviser, and that his agreement was in the process of being drafted, following advice received from Mrs. A. Belhomme, Principal Auditor, States of Jersey.</p> <p>ii. The Panel agreed that all States Members should now be informed of this appointment.</p> <p>d. Meetings with relevant consultation organisations</p> <p>i. Jersey Bankers Association – The Panel was informed that Senator Perchard and a Scrutiny Officer would be attending a meeting on the 19th April 2006 to discuss the two fiscal strategy reviews.</p> <p>ii. Jersey Association of Trust Companies – The Panel requested that this organisation be added to the list of contacts.</p> <p>e. Use of Sub Panels</p> <p>i. The Panel received a copy of an email sent from a Scrutiny Officer to Senator Perchard, highlighting the</p>	<p>Chairman & Connétable Gallichan</p> <p>SP</p> <p>MH</p> <p>KTF</p> <p>MH</p> <p>MH</p>
Item 5 a 24.03.06		MH
Item 5 b 24.03.06		MH
Item 5 c 24.03.06		MH

	<p>problems involved with non-elected members being brought onto a Sub Panel, especially with regard to questions being asked at Public Hearings. The Panel was informed that the draft protocol for the use of Sub Panel's was being discussed at the Chairmen's Committee meeting on the 20th April 2006.</p> <p>ii. GST Sub Panel - The Chairman informed the Panel that he was in the process of contacting several other States Members to establish whether they would be interested in joining this Sub Panel.</p> <p>iii. Look through Sub Panel – The Panel noted that Senator Perchard wished to invite the following members to join this Sub Panel:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Deputy P Ryan Senator J Perchard Deputy J Gallichan Senator B Shenton Deputy G Southern</p> <p>He also wished to invite Mr B Curtis to assist the Panel in the capacity of an adviser (unpaid). The Panel deferred approval of this matter until its next meeting on the 5th May 2006.</p> <p>f. Presentation from the Minister for Treasury & Resources</p> <p>The Panel was informed that the Treasury and Resources Minister would be providing it with a presentation on 20 means 20; look through arrangements; 0/10 corporate taxation; and consultation on the treatment of the financial services industry, on the 12th May 2006 at 11.30 am. The Panel was also informed that the Minister had been requested to make the papers for this presentation available to the Panel in advance of the 5th May 2006.</p>	Chairman
9.	<p>Scrutiny of States Business Plan and Budget</p> <p>The Panel deferred this matter until its next meeting on the 5th May 2006.</p>	
10.	<p>Dates of future meetings –</p> <p>The Panel confirmed the future meeting dates on 5th, 12th and 18th May 2006, and agreed that as Mr R Teather was being asked to attend the meeting on Friday 12th May, it should last all day, with the following timetable:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">9 am – 11 am – GST Sub Panel meeting 11.30 am – 1 pm – Presentation from Treasury & Resources Minister 1.30 pm – 4 pm – Look through Sub Panel meeting</p>	
11. Item 7 30.03.06	<p>AOB</p> <p>a. Questions from the public to Ministers</p> <p>The Panel acknowledged the draft press release that had been drafted by the Communications Unit, together with draft guidelines prepared by the Scrutiny Officer and noted that this initiative would be reported to the Chairmen's Committee, on the 20th April 2006.</p> <p>b. Public Engagement</p> <p>Deputy Gallichan also raised concerns regarding public engagement, which the Chairman agreed to raise with the Chairmen's Committee. Deputy Gallichan agreed to prepare a</p>	Deputy Gallichan

paper prior to this highlighting her suggestions for improving engagement with the public.

Signed

Date

.....
Chairman, Corporate Services Panel

.....