

# Chairmen's Committee

## Record of Meeting

Date: 20th September 2016

Present	Deputy J.A.N. Le Fondré, President and Chairman, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel Deputy R. Renouf, Chairman, Health and Social Security Scrutiny Panel Deputy S.M. Brée, Chairman, Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel Deputy D. Johnson, Chairman, Environment, Housing and Technical Services Scrutiny Panel Deputy A.D. Lewis, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee Deputy J.M. Maçon, Vice-Chairman, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Apologies	Deputy L.M.C. Doublet, Vice-President and Chairman, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Absent	
In attendance	Mr T. Oldham, Scrutiny Manager

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p><b>1. Records of meetings</b></p> <p>The Committee approved the records of its meetings held on 28th and 30th June, 4th, 6th and 14th July, 4th, 19th and 25th August, 5th, 7th and 12th September 2016, which were signed accordingly by the President.</p>	
<b>06.07.16 Item 2</b>	<p><b>2. Activity Reports</b></p> <p>The Committee noted Panel and PAC activity reports.</p>	
<b>06.07.16 Item 3  513/50</b>	<p><b>3. Medium Term Financial Plan Addition</b></p> <p>An update was provided by Chairmen regarding progress of Panel work on the MTFP Addition. It was noted that most Panels had either finalised or were close to completing their work, with most reports or comments to be presented by the end of the week. The Education and Home Affairs Panel was continuing to draft its comments, which were, therefore, more likely to be presented the following week.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the role of the Panels' adviser, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). It was agreed that the technical guidance provided by CIPFA had been of significant assistance to all Panels. The Committee also noted, however, that there had been some instances where Panels had been concerned by the timeliness of the submission of information from CIPFA and other administrative arrangements, although it understood that this might in part be explained by the volume of work required of CIPFA and the convergence of the Panels' own timetables.</p> <p>Consideration was given more broadly to the use of independent expert advisers by Panels. The Committee was advised that key</p>	

	<p>principles in the engagement of advisers included ensuring a high level of technical expertise, independence and integrity, all of which helped to contribute to the credibility of the input to the Panel's work received from an adviser and any associated report or other published output received from them during the engagement. Whilst in some instances maintaining the continuity of advisers engaged by Panels may be advantageous, for example following up an earlier Review, there was considerable potential merit in widening the pool of advisers engaged. The Committee noted that this could help not only to to achieve the aforementioned principles, but also limit any potential criticism, perceived or otherwise, that may be levelled against a Panel or its advisers by the Council of Ministers or others.</p> <p>It was agreed that a list would be maintained by the Scrutiny Office of previous and potential advisers grouped by areas of expertise, to assist the process undertaken by Scrutiny Officers to identify potential candidates for Panels.</p>	TO
06.07.16 Item 4	<p><b>4. Panel Names and Remits</b></p> <p>The Committee considered draft amendments to the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey and States of Jersey (Powers, Privileges and Immunities) Regulations.</p> <p>It was agreed that further advice would be sought from the Greffier of the States in relation to the proposed protection to be provided to persons or organisations named within evidence submitted to Scrutiny Panels and the PAC. The Committee recalled that its core objective was to afford those persons or organisations named in evidence the same privilege and immunities as those submitting evidence, and for such a framework to be comparable with relevant provisions within the House of Commons Select Committee system in the UK. The advice sought from the Greffier would include how the Committee's proposals compared to related provisions within the House of Commons Select Committee system, the appropriateness of providing complete v's qualified immunity from prosecution to those named in evidence and accused even of serious crime, and consideration of any wider implications of the draft amendment on the parliamentary privilege of the States Assembly.</p> <p>With regard to the remits of Panels, it was agreed that additional detail should be included in the draft Standing Orders in respect of the Corporate Services and Economic Affairs Panels, in order to clarify their responsibilities on the matters of financial services, innovation, competition and the digital industry.</p> <p>The Committee further agreed to clarify with the Law Draftsman that any reference to privilege in its drafting instructions should be taken to mean parliamentary privilege and not legal privilege.</p>	TO  TO  TO
06.07.16 Item 5	<p><b>5. Protocol for Engagement between Scrutiny Panels/PAC and the Executive</b></p> <p>The Committee recalled that the draft Protocol had been forwarded to the Council of Ministers by the President prior to the summer recess, and noted that a response was awaited.</p>	

<p><b>06.07.16</b> <b>Item 6</b></p> <p><b>511/2/1</b></p>	<p><b>6. Residential Property Transactions Review Panel</b></p> <p>Deputy D. Johnson, Chairman of the Review Panel, updated the Committee about the progress of the Review. Following a pause in the Review due to work on the MTFP Addition, the Panel aimed to complete evidence gathering over the coming weeks with the aim of reporting in November.</p>	
<p><b>06.07.16</b> <b>Item 9</b></p>	<p><b>7. Statement of Intent/Core Objectives</b></p> <p>It was noted that the President and Vice-President were continuing to develop a draft Statement of Intent/Core Objectives for the Committee's consideration.</p>	<p><b>JLF/LD</b></p>
	<p><b>8. Future Meetings</b></p> <p>The Committee noted that its next meeting was scheduled to take place on 18th October at 9.30am, Le Capelain Room, States Building.</p>	