

## Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Minutes of 26<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2006  
Blampied Room, States Building

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| Present       | Deputy P J D Ryan, Chairman<br>Senator J. Perchard, Vice-Chairman<br>Connétable J L S Gallichan<br>Deputy J. Gallichan (up to item 7) |
| Apologies     | Connétable D Murphy   |
| In attendance | Mr M Haden, Scrutiny Officer<br>Miss S Power, Scrutiny Officer  |

| Ref Back                                | Agenda matter   | Action |
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| 1.                                      | <b>Minutes</b> – The Panel approved the minutes of the meeting held on 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2006.   |        |
| 2.<br>Item 3a<br>09.11.06<br><br>Item 6 | <b>Matters arising -</b><br><b>Orchid Communications</b> – The Panel noted that Orchid Communications were unable to attend the Panel meeting as requested. The Panel was informed that Orchid Communications were now focused on working with the Public Engagement Group, and their allocated ten hours per week were therefore dedicated to this.<br><b>P.144/2006 - Comments in Jersey Evening Post</b> - The Chairman informed the Panel of the discussion he had had with the Editor regarding the reporting of his comments on the proposed Committee of Enquiry. It was agreed that there was no point in pursuing this matter further. |        |
| 3.                                      | <b>Register of local persons</b> – The Panel proposed the names of several individuals to be added to a register of local advisers, and requested for the Chairmen’s Committee to be notified accordingly.  | SP/KTF |
| 4.                                      | <b>Chairmen’s Committee</b> – The Panel received a draft copy of the minutes from the Chairmen’s Committee meeting held on 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2006. The Panel noted that the Chairmen’s Committee minutes on the Scrutiny website were not up to date, and requested for this to be addressed.  | SO     |
| 5.                                      | <b>Fiscal Strategy Reviews –</b><br>The Panel noted a report on expenditure to date for the GST and the Zero/Ten Reviews, and requested for a copy of the report to be forwarded to the Chairmen’s Committee and the Accounting Officer. The Panel also noted that much of the detail of the implementation of GST would be contained in Regulations which would be introduced in 2007. The Panel therefore agreed that it would be beneficial to extend the work of the Sub Panel into 2007 to review the Regulations and noted that its adviser had indicated that he would be available to continue working with the Panel.                  | SO     |
| 6.                                      | <b>Overseas Aid Review –</b><br>The Panel received an oral progress report on the Overseas Aid Review from the Chairman of the Sub Panel.<br>a. <b>Call for evidence</b> - a public call for evidence had been made, with a deadline for all submissions to be received   |        |

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|    | <p>by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2006.</p> <p>b. <b>Adviser</b> – the Panel agreed that it would be beneficial to engage the assistance of an expert adviser with international experience for this review. The Panel noted that University Departments running International Development courses had been contacted, and it was agreed that once responses had been received from interested parties the Panel would discuss the appointment of potential individuals.</p> <p>c. <b>Sub Panel membership</b> – Deputy Gallichan informed the Panel that as a result of other commitments she would not be able to assist the Panel with this review.</p>   |                     |
| 7. | <p><b>Future work programme 2007 –</b></p> <p>The Panel gave initial consideration to its future work programme for 2007, based on a paper prepared by the Scrutiny Officer. It was agreed that the Fiscal Strategy should continue to be one of the main priorities for the Panel. The Panel also agreed to consider a paper prepared by the Scrutiny Officer on the scrutiny of the States Business Plan.</p> <p>The Panel noted that legislation regarding the implementation of the Migration Policy was scheduled for lodging early in 2007 and requested that an update be obtained for the next meeting.</p> <p>The Panel agreed that further discussion on the work programme should continue at its next meeting.</p> <p>On a related matter, the Chairman informed the Panel that as a result of the States Debate on P.144/2006 into Mobile Telecommunications, he had offered to chair a Sub Panel for this review on behalf of the Health, Social Security and Housing Scrutiny Panel. The Panel noted that the Sub Panel had not yet been formally constituted; however it was brought to the Panel's attention that it was likely that Officer support with this review would be from the Corporate Services Panel as all other officers were fully occupied at this stage. The Panel discussed the impact this would have on its workload in the short term, and agreed that it would limit the time that the Officer was able to spend on the GST Review which was due to report by the middle of January. The Panel noted that the review of mobile phone masts was likely to extend beyond the six weeks period which had been initially proposed to meet the deadline set by the Minister. Consequently, the use of its officer resource was likely to have a significant effect on its work programme for 2007, as it would only leave one Officer to support the full Corporate Services Panel. The Panel requested for its concerns to be relayed to the Scrutiny Manager.</p> | <p>SP</p> <p>SO</p> |
| 8. | <p><b>Implementation of the Strategic Plan –</b></p> <p>The Panel considered a six monthly update progress report from the Chief Minister's and the Treasury and Resources Departments. The Panel agreed that this was an extremely helpful document, however it was noted that the report was presented to the Council of Ministers on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2006, and it had not been received by the Scrutiny Department until mid-November 2006. The Panel agreed that it would have been beneficial to have had this document in advance of its Public Meeting with the Chief Minister on the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2006, and requested for a letter to be drafted to the Chief Minister requesting for the Panel to have access to future</p>   | <p>SP</p>           |

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|     | progress reports as soon as possible.   |    |
| 9.  | <p><b>Forthcoming legislation –</b></p> <p>The Panel considered a report on propositions scheduled for States debate. The Panel agreed that this was a helpful document, and requested for it to be placed on the agenda for each full Panel meeting for consideration.</p>   | SO |
| 10. | <p><b>Ministerial decisions –</b></p> <p>The Panel considered recent decisions taken by Ministers, and agreed that it wished to continue receiving this information at future meetings.</p>   | SO |
| 11. | <p><b>Meeting dates 2007 –</b></p> <p>The Panel approved the proposed schedule of meetings for 2007.</p>  |    |
| 12. | <p><b>Date of next meeting –</b></p> <p>The next Panel meeting was scheduled for Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2006 at 9.30 am in the Blampied Room, States Building.</p>   |    |
| 13. | <p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>Deputy Gallichan informed the Panel that she had expressed the intention to seek membership on the Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel and that if successful; she would not be remaining on the Corporate Services Panel. The Panel thanked her for her work and support over the first year of Scrutiny.</p> <p>The Panel was informed that the draft Business Plan for the Chief Minister's Department would be forwarded in the first week of December.</p> |    |

Signed

Date

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Chairman, Corporate Services Panel

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