

Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Record of Meeting

Date: 29th January 2014

Meeting No: 134

Present	Senator S.C. Ferguson, Chairman [Absent for Item 15] Connétable D.W. Mezbourian Deputy R.J. Rondel
Apologies	
Absent	Deputy J.G. Reed, Vice-Chairman
In attendance	Deputy S. Power [Co-opted for Item 1 under Standing Order 138(5A)] Ms. P. Staley, Law Draftsman [Item 15] Mr. W. Millow, Scrutiny Officer Miss S. McKee, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
15/01/14 Item 3 513/41	<p>1. Population and Migration / Long-Term Plan</p> <p>The Panel considered the areas it would cover during its review of the Interim Population Policy. It was noted that the Policy would be lodged on 30th January 2014 for debate on 29th April 2014.</p> <p>The Panel noted that questions had been put on 28th January 2014 during the briefing for all States Members about whether the Policy would relate to the number of people or the number of heads of households. The Panel recalled that this matter had been discussed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman with the Chief Statistician at a briefing provided on 17th January 2014. It was agreed to request confirmation from the Chief Statistician as to how many people would be contained, statistically speaking, in 150 households.</p> <p>Consideration was given to a draft Scoping Document and Terms of Reference. It was noted that the review would focus upon the provisions of the Interim Population Policy and that other matters relating to the <i>Control of Housing and Work (Jersey) Law 2012</i> could be covered at a later time, when the Panel undertook follow-up work to its previous reviews of population and migration matters and after the Executive had undertaken a post-implementation review of the Law. The Scoping Document and Terms of Reference were approved.</p> <p>Consideration was given to whether a Sub-Panel should be established to undertake the review. The Panel, recalling the Deputy S. Power had been co-opted to the Panel for the review under Standing Order 138(5A), agreed that the review would be undertaken by the Panel itself.</p> <p>The Panel considered public hearings for the review and agreed that public hearings should be held with Senator P.F. Routier MBE, Assistant Chief Minister, and the Chief Statistician.</p>	SM

	<p>The Panel noted that the Long-Term Planning Framework had been published that day. The Panel considered whether the Long-Term Planning Framework took into account the findings of the McKinsey Report and the Scrutiny Officers were therefore requested to look into whether any of the McKinsey Report could be made available to the Panel.</p>	WM
	<p>2. Records of Meetings</p> <p>The Panel approved the records of its meetings held on 7th, 13th, 15th, 16th and 17th January 2014. The records were signed accordingly.</p>	
<p>17/01/14 Item 1 513/40</p>	<p>3. 2014 Budget</p> <p>The Panel recalled that its comments on <i>Draft Public Finances (Amendment of Law No.1) (Jersey) Regulations 201-</i> (P.133/2013) had been presented to the States on 20th January 2014. It was noted that the draft Regulations had subsequently been approved by the States Assembly on 21st January 2014. The Panel was advised that the only expenditure incurred for the review, the cost of the public hearing which had been held, had yet to be established.</p>	
<p>15/01/14 Item 4 513/1/(41)</p>	<p>4. States of Jersey Development Company</p> <p>The Panel was advised that the Chairman had been contacted by interested individuals in respect of the Esplanade Quarter and that she had been provided with estimated valuations for the returns expected from that development. Copies of the valuations were provided for the Scrutiny Office.</p> <p>The Panel received a report back from the Scrutiny Officers on the meeting which had been held with the Managing Director of the States of Jersey Development Company (SoJDC) and the Treasurer of the States. It was agreed that this was a sensitive matter, albeit a significant one, which would need to be dealt with appropriately. Consideration was given to whether the Panel would itself meet the Managing Director and it was agreed not to do so for the time being. It was agreed that a meeting would be held once the Panel had received and had an opportunity to consider the Trowers and Hamlins report, which the Scrutiny Officers were asked to request from the Department of Treasury and Resources.</p> <p>Consideration was given to the work that the Panel could undertake on this subject and it was agreed that an independent expert advisor would be required for any work undertaken. The Scrutiny Officers were therefore requested to undertake research on potential advisors.</p>	<p>WM</p> <p>WM</p>
<p>15/01/14 Item 5 513/35</p>	<p>5. Medium Term Financial Plan</p> <p>The Panel noted that <i>Annual Update to the MTFP Departmental Annex for 2014</i> (R.8/2014) had been presented to the States. The Panel further noted that, in a statement released on his personal website, Senator P.F.C. Ozouf, Minister for Treasury and Resources, had stated that alongside the Draft 2015 Budget Statement there would be published the Long-Term Revenue Plan. It was therefore considered that the Panel's end-of-term review in respect of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) could potentially be incorporated in its review of the Draft 2015 Budget. It was agreed that a Scoping Document and Terms of Reference would be drafted on that basis for</p>	WM

	consideration at the next meeting.	
15/01/14 Item 9 513/38	<p>6. Starter Home Deposit Loan Scheme</p> <p>The Panel noted receipt of an update prepared by the Scrutiny Office on the basis of information received from the Chief Minister's Department in respect of the Starter Home Deposit Loan Scheme which included information on the number of loans and amount of money allocated as of 10th January 2014. The Panel was advised that, further to that information, the Scrutiny Office had been informed that £2.7 million had currently been allocated and that the six-month trial period was due to finish at the end of January 2014. The Panel agreed to request in due course the results of any review undertaken by the Executive and statistics in respect of the results of the scheme. The Panel noted that the Minister for Treasury and Resources had indicated that the Scheme might potentially be extended.</p>	WM
15/01/14 Item 7 513/1(41)	<p>7. States Employment Board</p> <p>The Panel received a report back in respect of a meeting held by the Scrutiny Officers with the Chief Executive. It was noted that legislative changes in respect of the States Employment Board (SEB) were likely to be proposed later in the year. The Panel asked that a copy of the relevant law-drafting instructions be requested.</p> <p>The Panel was informed that an invitation had been extended to the Panel to attend the next meeting of the SEB. The Panel noted that it would be unable to attend on that date and therefore agreed to ask whether it could attend the SEB's subsequent meeting on 13th March 2014.</p> <p>It was agreed to include questions on the States Employment Board at the Quarterly Public Hearing with Senator I.J. Gorst, Chief Minister, on 30th January 2014.</p> <p>The Panel considered whether the SEB appropriately fell within the remit of the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel. It was noted that as the matter in hand referred to legislation and as it was the Chairman of the Corporate Services Panel who would most likely be asked whether the legislation should be referred to the Panel under Standing Order 72 (once the principles had been adopted by the Assembly), it was indeed a matter within the Panel's remit.</p>	SM SM
15/01/14 Item 9 513/1(41)	<p>8. Work Programme</p> <p>The Panel considered its work programme for 2014. Consideration was given to the deliverability of the work programme. The Panel was advised that, with the approval of a Scoping Document and Terms of Reference for a review of the Interim Population Policy, only one review was currently ongoing and the work programme overall therefore appeared deliverable.</p> <p>The Panel was informed that an officer meeting in respect of Independent Taxation would take place on 6th February 2014. It was noted that consideration of this subject would most likely be incorporated in the Panel's review of the Draft 2015 Budget Statement.</p> <p>The Panel considered the statement which the Minister for Treasury and Resources had recently published on his personal website in</p>	

	<p>respect of his priorities and plans for 2014 and the implications thereof for the Panel's own work programme.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that 2014 Departmental Business Plans had been requested from the Chief Minister's Department and the Department of Treasury and Resources.</p>	
513/1(40)	<p>9. Quarterly Public Hearing with Chief Minister</p> <p>The Panel, noting that a draft question plan had previously been circulated by e-mail, prepared for its Quarterly Public Hearing with the Chief Minister on 30th January 2014. Amendments to the question plan were agreed, which the Scrutiny Officers were requested to enact. The Panel, noting that reference was made in the question plan to a recent meeting of the Privileges and Procedures Committee, requested that the relevant minutes be circulated.</p>	WM
513/1(40)	<p>10. Quarterly Public Hearing with Minister for External Relations</p> <p>The Panel prepared for its Quarterly Public Hearing with Senator Sir P.M. Bailhache, Minister for External Relations, on 13th February 2014. The Scrutiny Officers were requested to draft and circulate a question plan for Panel consideration.</p>	WM / SM
<p>21/11/13 Item 2 465/1(182)</p>	<p>11. Machinery of Government</p> <p>The Panel noted receipt of a request from the Chairmen's Committee. It was noted that the Chairmen's Committee had considered whether the current Code of Practice for Scrutiny Panels and the Public Accounts Committee should be disbanded and replaced by a system whereby a code of practice for Ministers was drawn up and approved by the Council of Ministers; a code of practice for Scrutiny was drawn up and approved by the Chairmen's Committee; and a joint code of practice for Scrutiny and the Executive was also drawn up. The Panel noted that, in respect of that joint code of practice, the Chairmen's Committee was seeking views on whether it should be approved by the States or whether, alternatively, an amendment should be made to Standing Orders to provide that Members working on the Executive or Scrutiny should abide by the code of practice agreed by the Chairmen's Committee and the Chief Minister.</p> <p>Consideration was given to the sanctions which currently applied if the existing Code of Practice were breached and to the amount of time which the Assembly appeared to spend on debates concerning the machinery of government or composition of the Assembly. The Panel consequently agreed that its preferred option in respect of a joint code of practice would be for an amendment to be made to Standing Orders, provided that there would be appropriate consultation with all Scrutiny Panels prior to any such joint code of practice being approved by the Chairmen's Committee and Chief Minister. The Panel noted that its views would be reported back to the Chairmen's Committee.</p>	WM
	<p>12. Future Meetings</p> <p>The Panel noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place on 12th February 2014. Deputy R.J. Rondel gave his apologies for that meeting.</p>	
15/01/13 Item 2	<p>13. Modernisation Programme</p> <p>The Panel recalled that e-government appeared to provide the most</p>	

<p>513/1(41)</p>	<p>likely focus of any review undertaken in respect of the Modernisation Programme. It was agreed to include questions in respect of e-government at the Quarterly Public Hearing with the Chief Minister.</p> <p>The Panel recalled the briefing it had received from the Chief Executive on the status of the Modernisation Programme and the undertaking which had been made to provide the Panel with the new 'People Dashboard' which would become part of the Quarterly Financial Report process going forward. The Panel noted receipt of a draft version for the Chief Minister's Department.</p> <p>The Panel further recalled the undertaking that a video clip which had been shown at the seminar of staff discussing their experiences of the Lean training would be provided for the Panel. The Panel was informed that a copy had been received and that arrangements would be made for it to be shown to the Panel.</p>	<p>SM</p>
<p>10/04/13 Item 2</p> <p>513/1(40)</p>	<p>14. Public Sector Pensions</p> <p>The Panel noted that it had been offered a briefing by the Department of Treasury and Resources in respect of proposed amendments to the Public Employees Contributory Retirement Scheme (PECRS). It was agreed to request that the briefing take place during the Panel's scheduled meeting on 26th February 2014.</p>	<p>WM</p>
<p>15/01/14 Item 8</p> <p>513/1(41)</p>	<p>15. Legislative Process</p> <p>The Panel received a briefing from Ms. P. Staley, Law Draftsman, on the legislative process. The Panel was informed of the process from the development and agreement of policy by Departments, through the provisions of law-drafting instructions to the Law Draftsman, to the law-drafting process itself. The Panel noted that the legislative process incorporated stages subsequent to law-drafting, for instance the debate and approval of draft legislation by the Assembly and the seeking and receipt of Royal Assent. It was therefore agreed that the Law Draftsman would be invited to return at a subsequent meeting to continue the briefing.</p> <p>The Panel noted receipt of a draft Scoping Document and Terms of Reference for a prospective review of the legislative process. It was agreed to defer consideration of the documentation to a later meeting.</p>	<p>WM</p>