# **Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel**

## **Meeting No. 28**

4th October 2006

1st Floor Meeting Room, States Greffe

Present Deputy G. P. Southern, Chairman

Deputy A. Breckon

Connétable M. K. Jackson

Deputy J. A. Martin Deputy K. C. Lewis

In attendance Nathan Fox, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
1.	Minutes  The Minutes of the meetings hold on 0th August 2006 and 20th	
	The Minutes of the meetings held on 9th August 2006 and 20th September 2006, were considered and approved.	
2.	Meeting with Orchid Communications	
	The Panel recalled that a meeting had been arranged with Orchid Communications. This had been cancelled due to scheduling problems. The Chairman undertook to meet them separately.	GS
	On a related matter, it was noted that the current arrangements for communications, whereby all contact would be carried out trough the Chairmen's Committee was unwieldy and would have to be rethought.	
	It was hoped that Orchid would be able to assist in the publication of the fulfilment review. It was also hoped that they could add value by producing press releases connected with questions asked in the States by members of Scrutiny.	
3.	Fulfilment Review	
Item 3 20th Sept 2006	The Panel received a briefing from the Chairman on the progress of the fulfilment review, and considered the latest draft of the report.	
	The Panel made amendments to the order and content of the report, and noted that it was currently planned to present it to the States on 9th October 2006.	
	Officers were directed to take the appropriate action.	NJF

#### 4. Dairy Review – Briefing from Dep Breckon

### Item 5 20th Sept 2006

The Panel received a briefing from the Vice-Chairman on the progress of the Economic Affairs sub-Panel (Dairy Review).

The Panel was informed that the sub-Panel was being delayed by the late arrival of the report from the consultants, Promar. A number of submissions had been received, and a meeting had been held with the Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society to discuss their concerns about the future of the dairy industry.

The Minister for Commerce and Employment in Guernsey had been approached for permission to visit the Guernsey Dairy, but this had been refused. It was noted that the letter appeared to indicate that there was no future possibility of Jersey Scrutiny receiving assistance from the Guernsey government. The Chairman of the Dairy sub-Panel was to respond formally.

**AB** 

Numerous issues had been raised, including the structure of the Jersey Dairy, its relationship to the Jersey Milk Marketing Board, and the responsibilities of its States-appointed Directors.

The Panel was expecting to receive and interim report from Promar on 2nd October 2006.

#### 5. Meeting with the Economic Development Minister

The Panel met with the a delegation consisting of the Economic Development Minister accompanied by Mr. M King, Chief Executive Officer and Mr. K Lemasney, Strategy Development Manager, to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Communication was initially discussed, and all parties agreed that it would be preferable for information to be passed directly between the Department and the Panel (and vice versa) directly. It was noted that recently matters had been appearing in the media without prior notice.

The Minister queried why he had not yet been called as a witness for the Jersey Telecom Privatisation review, and was informed that he would be so called at the appropriate time.

The Minister listed the forthcoming departmental priorities as-

The Enterprise and Business Development Strategy, intended to increase economic growth through co-operation with local businesses:

The Tourism Destination Audit, to guide the Tourism Development Fund expenditure;

The Retail Strategy, the implementation plan of which was shortly to be finalised;

The Minister also noted that he was supporting an initiative to cooperate with the cultural elements of the Education Sport and Culture Department, and although Standing Orders did permit him to appoint a third Assistant Minister to undertake a joint role, valuable links had been forged.

In regard to sea routes, a service level agreement was to be instituted with Condor Ferries by the end of the year, and changes in regulation were planned in respect of ramp permits. A joint agreement with Guernsey was planned for 2009.

The Chairman then raised the issue of the appeals procedure for RUD decisions. The Minister informed the meeting that the procedure was that an applicant would be re-heard by the Minister, with the Royal Court as a further option.

The Minister expressed the hope that the Panel would keep the Department informed about future reviews.

The Minister suggested that the Panel should receive a briefing in respect of the financial services industry from the Director of International Finance.

The Panel thanked the Minister for his attendance. The delegation then withdrew.

Signed	Date
Chairman Deputy G. P. Southern Economic Affairs Panel	