

# Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel

## Record of Meeting

4th May 2016

Present	Deputy S.M. Brée, Chairman Deputy D. Johnson, Vice-Chairman
Apologies	Connétable J.E. Le Maistre Connétable M.J. Paddock
Absent	
In attendance	Mr. M. Orbell, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p><b>1. Records of meeting</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2016 were approved and signed.</p>	<b>MO</b>
<p><b>Item 3</b> <b>20.04.16</b>  <b>515/36</b></p>	<p><b>2. Harmful Telecommunications</b></p> <p>The Panel discussed its approach to the review. Given the need to present comments before the resumption of the debate on 14th June it was agreed to focus on whether the draft legislation was fit for purpose, including any potential impact it might have on freedom of speech. Some consideration of relevant legal terminology might be required, for example the concept of <i>mens rea</i> ('guilty mind'), but the review would concentrate on the draft legislation rather than the nature of the crimes it was designed to address.</p> <p>The Panel would meet with selected witnesses informally, and would aim to hold a public hearing with the Minister before finalising comments on the proposition at its scheduled meeting on 8th June.</p>	<b>MO</b>
<p><b>Item 4</b> <b>20.04.16</b>  <b>515/37</b></p>	<p><b>3. Dormant Bank Accounts</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that having called the proposition in for scrutiny on 26th April, the debate would resume on 28th June. The aim would be to finalise Panel comments by 22nd June.</p> <p>The Panel agreed possible dates to offer for a public hearing with the Assistant Chief Minister, and identified other potential witnesses. Depending on timing it was agreed that written submissions could be requested in the first instance.</p>	<b>MO</b>  <b>MO</b>
<p><b>Item 5</b> <b>20.04.16</b></p>	<p><b>4. Medium Term Financial Plan Addition</b></p> <p>The Panel considered generic draft scoping documents and terms of reference produced by the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel for use by other Panels. It was agreed that some points in the draft terms of reference were not appropriate to the Panel's needs and would not be used.</p> <p>It was agreed that letters should be sent to the Minister for Economic</p>	<b>MO</b>

	<p>Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture and the Assistant Chief Minister with responsibility for Financial Services, Digital, Competition and Innovation requesting early information and private briefings on the MTFP Addition within the areas of their remit, although realistically it was not expected that much detail would be made available prior to the planned lodging date for the MTFP Addition of 30th June 2016. It was noted that the transfer of functions might complicate comparisons with previous funding arrangements.</p> <p>It was further agreed that a meeting should be arranged with the adviser to the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel to discuss possibilities for his providing assistance to the Panel. The Scrutiny Officer was asked to enquire about possible arrangements and report back to the Panel.</p>	<p><b>MO</b></p> <p><b>MO</b></p>
<p><b>Item 6</b> <b>20.04.16</b></p>	<p><b>5. Rural Economy Strategy (RES)</b></p> <p>The Scrutiny Officer confirmed that an officer briefing offered by the department had been postponed until the following week. The Chairman of the Environment, Health and Technical Services Panel reiterated an earlier request that any information obtained also be made available to members of that Panel, subject to the department's agreement.</p>	<p><b>MO</b></p>
<p><b>Item 7</b> <b>20.04.16</b></p>	<p><b>6. Draft Protocol for Engagement between Scrutiny Panels and the Executive</b></p> <p>It was noted that agreement had been reached at Chairmen's Committee to reduce the number of draft protocols from 4 to 2. The Panel agreed to defer discussion of this item until the relevant new drafts were finalised.</p>	<p><b>MO</b></p>
	<p><b>7. Regulation of Virtual Currency</b></p> <p>Members expressed some concerns about the Draft Proceeds of Crime (Miscellaneous Amendments) (Jersey) Regulations 201- (P.44/2016) lodged that morning by the Chief Minister. It was agreed that an early briefing should be sought from the Assistant Chief Minister.</p>	<p><b>MO</b></p>
	<p><b>8. Forthcoming meetings</b></p> <p>It was agreed to hold an additional Panel meeting between 12.00pm and 2.00pm on Thursday 12th May (States permitting) to discuss the Panel's review of Harmful Telecommunications.</p> <p>Next scheduled Panel meeting: 9.30am on 18th May 2016, Blampied Room, States Building.</p>	<p><b>MO</b></p>