

Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Minutes of 10th meeting held on Thursday 30th March 2006

Present Deputy P J D Ryan, Chairman
 Senator J L Perchard
 Connétable J L S Gallichan
 Connétable D.J. Murphy (for a time)
 Deputy J Gallichan

In attendance Mr M Haden, Scrutiny Officer
 Miss S Power, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
1 Item 4 23.03.06	<p>Questions to the Chief Minister</p> <p>Senator F H Walker, Chief Minister, and Mrs J Marshall, Scrutiny Liaison Officer, Chief Minister's Department, attended upon the Panel. The Chief Minister was questioned on various areas of interest to the Panel.</p> <p>Deputy Gallichan was requested to prepare a report in liaison with the Scrutiny officer on the issues discussed and the actions arising from the meeting</p>	Deputy Gallichan SP
2.	<p>Minutes – The Panel approved the Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2006.</p>	
3.	<p>Chairman's report – The Panel received notes of the regular weekly meeting between the Chairman and officers, dated 29th March 2006 and noted the following –</p> <p>a. Call from Paul Bradbury, Director, Population office – Officers to meet him within the first two weeks of April to discuss the general concept of scrutiny and possible future review of the draft legislation. Following this, he would be invited to a future Panel meeting to brief the Panel on the progress in establishing the Population Office and the development of law drafting instructions for the migration licensing system.</p> <p>b. Briefing on Chief Minister's Department – The Panel was advised that agreed that the Chief Executive was unavailable on any Thursday up till July. The Panel agreed that this was not a priority in its current work programme and decided to defer this opportunity for the time being.</p> <p>c. Letter from Mr P Hobbs regarding public sector staff costs.</p>	MH MH
4. Item 2.3 23.03.06	<p>Scrutiny of States Business Plan and Budget</p> <p>The Panel noted the response, dated 24th March 2006, from the Treasury and Resources Liaison Officer to the Scrutiny Officer's e-mail, dated 22nd March 2006, which had raised a series of questions relating to the information to be supplied to the Panel on the Treasury's draft financial forecasts and other reports which would be incorporated in the States Business Plan for 2007.</p> <p>The Panel noted that the June forecasts would be presented to the Minister on 19th June 2006 at which point they would be made available to Scrutiny. This was shortly before the next scheduled meeting with the Minister on the 22nd June 2006 and so there would be an opportunity to discuss the forecast figures on that date.</p> <p>The Panel considered the role it might play in the Business</p>	

	<p>Planning process but agreed that its principal focus for the time being would be on developing its reviews of the various work streams of the Fiscal Strategy.</p> <p>The Panel agreed, however, to continue to press for updated information on the financial forecasts and departmental cash limits and confirmed that it wished to receive an early draft of the States Business Plan and Budget when it became available.</p>	<p>Deputy Gallichan MH</p>
<p>5. Item 3 23.03.06</p>	<p>Fiscal Strategy</p> <p>a. Engagement of an expert adviser -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appointment panel would be meeting Richard Teather at 11 am and John Hasseldine at 3 pm on Monday 3rd April 2006. • The appointment panel would consist of Deputy Ryan; Senator Perchard; Brian Curtis and Robert Behan. • Draft agreement for adviser – The Panel requested for Treasury and Resources to be contacted to establish whether any additional information needed to be included in the contract. <p>b. Meetings with relevant consultation organisations –</p> <p>Relevant groups to be informed that scheduling of these meetings had been deferred until the planning and terms of reference for the GST review had been finalised.</p> <p>c. Use of Sub Panels -</p> <p>The Panel gave further consideration to the use of Sub Panels in taking forward the work on the various elements of the Fiscal Strategy and noted the relevant section of the draft Code of Practice. The Panel agreed that -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. whilst the full Panel must retain overall responsibility for the allocation of resources and the final report produced by a sub Panel, the sub Panel should be allowed the flexibility to proceed with its review without undue restrictions placed on it to seek the Panel’s agreement for every development. ii. the Chairman of the Sub Panel should be allowed to select the membership of the Sub Panel, subject to the final endorsement of the Panel. iii. to establish two sub Panels, one to examine the proposed legislation for the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax, the second to examine the proposals relating to look through provisions and ‘20% means 20%’. Deputy Ryan agreed to lead the work on GST, assisted by Connétable Gallichan, and Senator Perchard agreed to lead the second sub Panel. It was agreed that Connétable Murphy would be asked to assist the second Sub Panel. iv. the two Sub Panels would be entitled to invite other members, both elected non-Executives and suitably qualified unelected members to assist them in their work on the fiscal strategy. The Chairman proposed that an invitation should be extended to all non-executive States members to express an interest in assisting the Sub Panels with their work. v. Senator Shenton and Brian Curtis would be invited to be involved in the Review process, once the scoping document had been completed. vi. The Panel requested to be provided with the date when 20 means 20 legislation would be available. 	<p>MH</p> <p>MH</p> <p>Chairman Senator Perchard</p> <p>Chairman Senator Perchard</p> <p>Scrutiny Panel</p> <p>MH</p>

	<p>vii. the remit and limits of responsibility for the sub Panels should be clearly understood from the outset. The Scrutiny Officer was requested to draw up a draft protocol for consideration at the next meeting.</p> <p>viii. the two Sub Panels would meet on 6th April to plan the work programme for their reviews, following which this would be reported back to the full Panel for approval on 13th April and then to the Chairmen's Committee meeting on 21st April for endorsement.</p>	Chairman Senator Perchard
6.	<p>Draft States Strategic Plan</p> <p>a. The Panel noted the submission from Mr P Hobbs on the draft Strategic Plan.</p> <p>b. The Panel agreed that Deputy Gallichan would lead the work in drafting a paper detailing the Panel's comments on the draft States Strategic Plan. This paper would then be brought before the full Panel for comment and approval on 5th May.</p>	Deputy Gallichan
7.	<p>Public engagement</p> <p>The Panel noted that the Chief Minister had welcomed the initiative by the Chairman to invite members of the public to submit written questions which could then be put to the Minister in the course of a public meeting. It was agreed that further consideration should be given to the manner of handling such questions. It was agreed that the Communication Unit should be contacted with a view to giving this initiative some media coverage.</p>	Deputy Gallichan
8.	<p>Dates of future meetings</p> <p>The Panel agreed the following meeting dates:</p> <p>Thursday 13th April – to approve the scoping documents for GST Look Through and 20 means 20 Reviews</p> <p>Friday 5th May – to approve the paper on the draft States Strategic Plan</p> <p>Thursday 18th May</p>	

Signed

Date

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Chairman, Corporate Services Panel

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