

Public Accounts Committee

Record of Meeting

Date: 15th October 2012

Meeting No: 10

Present	Deputy T. Vallois, Chairman Senator S. C. Ferguson, Deputy R. Rondel Deputy G. Baudains Mr S. Haigh Mr I. Ridgway Mr J Mills
Apologies	
In attendance	Mr M. Robbins, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p>1. Constitution of Committee</p> <p>The Committee noted the resignation of Deputy S. Pitman from the Committee and the Chairman and members welcomed Deputy G. Baudains as a new member.</p>	
	<p>2. Records of Meetings</p> <p>The records of the meetings held on 17th September 2012 were approved and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
	<p>3. Questioning Training</p> <p>Committee Members who attended the questioning training were offered the opportunity to complete a feedback form.</p>	
Item 4 17.09.12	<p>4. Comptroller and Auditor General.</p> <p>The Chairman circulated documents for the information of the Committee and gave an oral update on the progress of the recruitment of a new Comptroller and Auditor General.</p>	
	<p>5. Shadow Tourism Board</p> <p>The Minister for Economic Development had written to the Chairman inviting the Committee to examine the proposal to establish a 'Tourism Shadow Board'. In accordance with P170/2010 (Shadow Boards and Ministerial Boards: approval by the States), the Minister was obliged to seek the views of the Committee.</p> <p>It was the decision of the Committee that the Minister was to be informed that the examination of future policy was outside the remit of the Committee and therefore the Committee had undertaken no formal work on the matter. However, as P170/2010 required the Committee to</p>	

	<p>be consulted, it was the view of the Committee that the establishment of a 'Shadow Tourism Board' to fulfil roles that were currently undertaken internally, did not appear to offer value for money as the roles should be honorary with the exception of the Chairman in order to attract a more diverse range of candidates. Further, that the name 'shadow' was unsuitable as shadow boards had no power or responsibilities.</p>	MR
<p>Item 6 17.09.12 512/17</p>	<p>6. Lime Grove House: failure to acquire for use of Police Headquarters</p> <p>Having agreed at the previous meeting that a review would be undertaken by the Committee the Chairman gave an oral update in relation to informing the Chairmen's Committee of that decision. Scoping documents and Terms of Reference were not prepared in time for the Chairmen's Committee meeting which had been held the day after the Committee decision to undertake the review.</p> <p>The Chairmen's' Committee had been informed by the Chairman of the PAC objective but it had already been aware of that intention.</p> <p>The Scrutiny Manager was on annual leave until November when the scoping documents were to be drafted.</p>	TV
	<p>7. Printer Contract</p> <p>Following a question asked in the States to the Minister for Treasury and Resources on 25th September 2012, Deputy M. Higgins has requested the Committee examines the recent allocation of the printer contract for the States of Jersey.</p> <p>In preparation for that, the background documentation had been requested from the Treasury but had not been supplied in time for the meeting. It was noted that the Treasurer had offered to give the Committee a briefing on the issues. This offer had been declined by the Chairman until the documentation had been examined. The offer would be accepted should the need arise.</p> <p>The documentation was to be circulated on receipt.</p>	MR
	<p>8. Future meetings</p> <p>In preparation for the setting of the dates for the Committee meetings through 2013, the Committee considered its regular meeting day and time. It was agreed that Monday was a suitable day for members and that meeting over the lunchtime period was most appropriate. Arrangements were to be made for all meetings to be from 1230hrs on a Monday.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that the next formal scheduled meeting was to be at 12.30 pm on Monday 12th November 2012 in the Blampied Room of the States Buildings.</p>	MR MR
<p>Item 1 08.10.12 512/16</p>	<p>9. Financial Report and Accounts 2011.</p> <p>Figures provided to the Chairman by the Transport and Technical Services Department were to be circulated. The Chairman was requested to decide whether it was necessary to hold a public hearing with that department.</p> <p>In preparation for the public hearing with the Treasurer of the States,</p>	MR

	<p>the perception of conflicts of interest was discussed. It was decided that there were no significant areas of conflict but at the start of the hearing such areas as may be considered a conflict were to be discussed.</p> <p>The Committee welcomed the Treasurer of the States and members of the Treasury to a Public Hearing. The hearing was recorded for broadcast by 'podcasting' with the transcripts published on the Public Accounts Committee web page.</p>	
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