

# Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

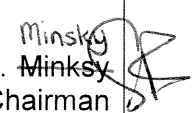
## PUBLIC MEETING

### Record of Meeting

Date: 18th March 2009

Meeting 15

Present	Senator S.C. Ferguson, Chairman Connétable D.J. Murphy
Apologies	Deputy C.H. Egré, Vice-Chairman Deputy T.A. Vallois
Absent	
In attendance	Mr. W. Millow, Scrutiny Officer Mr. M. Robbins, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p><b>1. Records of Meetings</b></p> <p>The Panel approved and signed the records of its meetings on 25th February, 4th March and 9th March 2009.</p>	
<p>12/03/09, Item 1</p> <p>513/18</p>	<p><b>2. Migration and Population</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that Deputy T.A. Vallois, ahead of her absence from the meeting, had e-mailed the Panel and suggested that it consider the context for the use of the word 'sustainability' in the draft Strategic Plan. The Panel agreed that this matter fell within the remit of the Migration and Population Sub-Panel.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that the Migration and Population Sub-Panel had met on 11th March 2009. It recalled that the Terms of Reference and Scoping Document for the Sub-Panel's review had been circulated and approved. It was noted that the Terms of Reference had subsequently been dispatched to Senator T.A. Le Sueur, Chief Minister, for comment and that no comments had been received. It was further noted that the Sub-Panel hoped to appoint the same advisor as had been engaged by the former Migration Sub-Panel.</p>	
<p>04/03/09, Item 10</p>	<p><b>3. Fiscal Stimulus Package</b></p> <p>The Panel considered the work it would undertake on the Fiscal Stimulus Package. It was recalled that the Panel had previously agreed to review the matter as a full Panel. However, the Panel noted that, under Standing Order 138(5A), a Scrutiny Panel could co-opt another Member for the purpose of a specific review. It was subsequently agreed to invite Deputy M.R. Higgins, Chairman of the Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel, to join the Panel for this review.</p> <p>The Panel was advised by the Chairman of a publication by H. Minsky that might be of relevance to its review. It was noted that the Chairman would pass a copy of the publication to the Scrutiny Office.</p> <p>The Panel noted that no response had been received to its request to Senator P.F.C. Ozouf, Minister for Treasury and Resources, regarding the timetable of development of the Fiscal Stimulus Package.</p>	<p>MR</p> <p>Minsky</p> 

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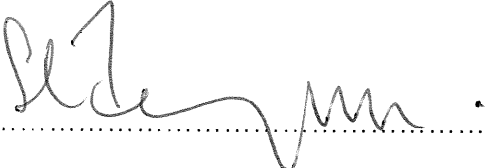
	<p>Notwithstanding this fact, it was noted that the proposed Package would be debated at the same States sitting as the new Strategic Plan. It was agreed that the Panel's work on the Fiscal Stimulus Package would take priority. It was further noted that the Minister had recently sought the advice of the Fiscal Policy Panel.</p> <p>It was noted that papers relating to the Fiscal Stimulus Package that had been requested by the Chairman from Senator A.J.H. Maclean, Minister for Economic Development, had yet to be received.</p>	
	<p><b>4. Action Updates</b></p> <p>The Panel noted the update on actions it had requested at previous meetings.</p>	
<p><b>04/03/09, Item 9</b></p>	<p><b>5. Finance Sub-Panel</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that a request had been made to other Panels regarding membership of the Finance Sub-Panel. It was noted that the Sub-Panel, which had met that morning, would send further correspondence to the Health, Social Security and Housing Panel in response to queries that Panel had made about the purpose of the Sub-Panel. Furthermore, the Chairman would raise the matter at the Chairmen's Committee meeting on 19th March 2009.</p> <p>The Panel confirmed the Sub-Panel's membership as the Chairman (who would also act as Chairman of the Sub-Panel); Connétable D.J. Murphy; Deputy R.G. Le Hérissier; and Deputy S. Pitman. It was noted that the Sub-Panel initially intended to review expenditure forecasting and that the review would last until July 2009. It was further noted that the Sub-Panel intended to use Mr. M. Oliver as expert advisor for the review. The Panel was advised that all Sub-Panel members had been asked to forward ideas to the Scrutiny Office in order that the review might be scoped in detail.</p>	<p><b>SF</b></p>
<p><b>04/03/09, Item 5</b></p> <p><b>513/4</b></p>	<p><b>6. Deemed Rent</b></p> <p>The Panel was advised that the Chairman had met Jurat P. Blampied OBE to consider his views on <i>Draft Income Tax (Amendment No. 32) (Jersey) Law 200-</i> (P.161/2009). It was noted that a record of the meeting would be circulated in due course but that the outcome of the meeting would not require any amendments to the Panel's report. It was further noted that correspondence would be dispatched to Deputy E.J. Noel, Assistant Minister for Treasury and Resources, with information on the Chairman's meeting with Jurat Blampied and with a request to be kept informed of the Department's work.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that the Chairman had contacted Guernsey Deputy C.N.K. Parkinson regarding the corresponding situation in that Island.</p> <p>The Panel noted that its report, as approved, would be printed and distributed on 20th March 2009 ahead of formal presentation to the States on 23rd March 2009.</p>	<p><b>MR</b></p>
<p><b>04/03/09, Item 7</b></p>	<p><b>7. Property Holdings</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that arrangements had yet to be confirmed for a briefing from officers of the Property Holdings Departments on 8th April 2009.</p>	
<p><b>04/03/09, Item 8</b></p>	<p><b>8. Rapporteur: Information Technology, Human Resources and Emergency Planning</b></p>	

	The Panel noted that the Vice-Chairman, in his capacity as rapporteur, had not yet begun work on the various matters within his remit.	
04/03/09, Item 12	<p><b>9. Williamson Report</b></p> <p>The Panel recalled its previous discussions on <i>Williamson Report: Implementation Plan – Funding</i> (P.17/2009) and the fact that it appeared unusual for funding to be sought before the debate on the Williamson Report itself had occurred. The Panel was advised that the Health, Social Security and Housing Panel had already questioned Senator J.L. Perchard, Minister for Health and Social Services, on this matter. It was therefore agreed that the Chairman would raise the matter at the Chairmen’s Committee meeting on 19th March 2009.</p>	SF
	<p><b>10. Part B Council of Ministers Papers</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that Part B papers considered by the Council of Ministers had been distributed to the Panel following a request by the Chairman in accordance with Paragraph 9.23 of <i>Code of Practice for Scrutiny Panels and the Public Accounts Committee</i>. These papers related to the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tax Information Exchange Agreements</li> <li>• Alternate</li> </ul> <p>These matters had been considered by the Council of Ministers on 5th March 2009 in private session under Article 3.2.1(a)(xiv) of <i>Code of Practice on Public Access to Official Information</i>.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that the Chairman had requested papers relating to Migration Policy and 2009 Funding Pressures that were due to be considered by the Council at its meeting on 19th March 2009.</p>	
09/03/09, Item 1  513/16	<p><b>11. Waterfront Enterprise Board</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that its report on <i>Waterfront Enterprise Board: Revised Memorandum and Articles of Association</i> (P.12/2009) had been presented to the States that day. It was noted that the WEB Sub-Panel Chairman, Connétable D.J. Murphy had not received any immediate feedback to the report. It was further noted that the report had been presented in time for the debate of <i>Waterfront Enterprise Board: appointment of States Directors</i> (P.34/2009) that would take place on 24th March 2009. In that latter regard, it was noted that an amendment to P.34/2009 had been lodged by Deputy G.P. Southern.</p> <p>The Panel noted that the 2008 accounts for the Waterfront Enterprise Board had been presented to the States that day.</p>	
04/03/09, Item 13	<p><b>12. Strategic Plan</b></p> <p>Recalling its previous agreement that Members would study the draft Strategic Plan and bring items of interest to the meeting for discussion, it was noted that no Panel Member had yet forwarded comments on the draft Plan to the Scrutiny Office. It was agreed that the Chairman would consider the Plan with a view to identifying possible comments that could be presented to the States.</p>	SF
11/02/09, Item 13	<p><b>13. Freedom of Information</b></p> <p>The Panel was advised that Freedom of Information legislation would appear on the work programme of the Privileges and Procedures</p>	

	<p>Committee and that it was likely the Committee would ask the Panel to consider reviewing the legislation in due course. The Panel agreed it would await further news from the Committee before making a decision. In this regard, it was noted that the Vice-Chairman, as Vice-Chairman of the Committee, would be able to provide the Panel with updates and it was therefore agreed to discuss the matter at the next meeting.</p>	<p><b>WM / MR</b></p>
	<p><b>14. Ministerial Decisions</b></p> <p>The Panel noted the decisions that had been made by the Chief Minister and the Minister for Treasury and Resources and which had appeared on <a href="http://www.gov.je">www.gov.je</a> between 25th February and 11th March 2009.</p>	
	<p><b>15. Questions to Ministers</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that the Minister for Social Security and the Chief Minister would answer questions without notice at the States sitting of 24th March 2009.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that Connétable Murphy would table a written question to the Chief Minister regarding the use of the Criminal Offences Confiscation Fund and the Drug Trafficking Confiscation Fund.</p>	
	<p><b>16. Future Meetings</b></p> <p>The Panel noted its next scheduled meeting would occur on 8th April 2009. It further noted that a Public Hearing would be held with the Minister for Treasury and Resources at 10:00am on that day.</p>	
	<p><b>17. 'Scrutiny Matters' Newsletter</b></p> <p>The Panel was advised that the next edition of the 'Scrutiny Matters' newsletter would be published in due course and that the Panel would therefore be asked to produce a report of its work. It was noted that a profile of a Panel Member would not be obligatory although, in this regard, the Panel considered that Deputy Vallois would potentially be a suitable candidate for such a profile.</p>	

Signed

Date:



Chairman, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

18th March 2009