Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel

Meeting No. 16

20th June 2006 1st Floor Meeting Room, Morier House

Deputy G. P. Southern, Chairman Deputy J. A. Martin Deputy K. C. Lewis Present

Apologies

Connétable M. K. Jackson Absent

Deputy A. Breckon

Carol Le Quesne, Scrutiny Officer In attendance

Nathan Fox, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
1.	Future Work Programme	
	The Panel discussed its future plans for the continuation of its ongoing work, and the development of new reviews.	
These minutes Item 5	Sea Transport Links	
	It was agreed that, notwithstanding the interest within the Panel in the subject of sea transport links, any review into this subject would be considerably more valuable if undertaken after the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority had finalised the terms of reference of its forthcoming review into the subject.	
	Proposed Sub-Panel on the Dairy Relocation	
	The Chairman stated that he had been contacted by members of the Public Accounts Committee in respect of the intended relocation of the Jersey Dairy to Howard Davis Farm. Issues had been raised in respect of the lifting of the covenant, and the financial status of the dairy industry.	
	Interest in this subject had also been expressed by the Environment Scrutiny Panel, and the Chairman of that Panel had contacted the Chairman with reference to undertaking joint action in this regard.	
	The Panel agreed that the best course of action would be to establish a sub-panel under Standing Order 139, to include two members of this Panel, two members of the Environment Scrutiny Panel, and two members of the Public Accounts Committee.	
	It was considered appropriate that the sub-Panel should be established under this Panel, that a member of this Panel should be proposed as Chair of the sub-Panel, and that officer support and any necessary budget should be provided by this Panel, subject to the approval of the Chairman's Committee.	NJF
	Officers were directed to obtain the Public Accounts Committee	NJF

	draft terms of reference for the review previously proposed.	
	Skills Strategy Review	
	The Committee was of the opinion that the matter of skills and training in Jersey was worthy of review. It agreed at some point in the future to undertake a review into this subject, with special consideration being given to the operation of the Training and Employment Partnership, the Economic Development Minister's strategy in this regard, and the policies of the Education, Sport and Culture Minister in respect of tuition fees. It was suggested that this could address some be cross-cutting issues that might necessitate some prior agreement with the Social Affairs Scrutiny Panel.	
	Marine Fuel Response	
	It had been suggested that the Panel might produce a response to the recent public consultation discussion paper in respect of the application of duty to fuel for marine leisure craft. This was not considered an immediate priority by the Panel, although it was agreed that Connétable Jackson was involved with the matter and was delegated to respond if he considered it appropriate. Officers were directed to assist in this response if this was necessary.	CLQ
2.	Request for Information	
	The Panel noted that a request for information pertaining to the applications submitted to the Regulation of Undertakings Department by Tesco (Jersey) Limited and '101.cd' Limited had been made to the Economic Development Minister, who had assumed personal control over the release of such information.	
	No response had yet been received, and accordingly officers were directed to contract the Department and inquire as to the progress of the request.	CLQ & NJF
3.	Meeting with Minister	
	The Committee noted that it had received an invitation to meet with the Minister and his officers to discuss future business in order to avoid duplication of effort and to ensure an effective working relationship.	
	It had been suggested that this could take place in the lunchtime adjournment of the States on 4th July 2006.	
	The Panel agreed that this would be appropriate, and accordingly directed officers to make the necessary arrangements.	CLQ & NJF
4.	Meetings with Companies and Site Visits	
	The Panel noted responses to its call for information in respect of the fulfilment review, and decided to undertake a visit to the operation of Play.com Limited in the morning of 6th July 2006, and to meet with two 3rd-Party Service Providers in the afternoon of that day.	
	Officers were directed to make the necessary arrangements	CLQ

5. These minutes Item 1	The Panel noted that under Standing Order 139, it was not possible for a sub-Panel to bring a Proposition to the States in its own name, as it was considered to be an extension of a particular Panel. This was not considered to be the most appropriate method of operation, and the Panel considered that it would be more effective if a sub-Panel could bring Propositions or amendments in its own name.	
	Officers were directed to undertake research into the possibility of amending this Standing Order accordingly.	NJF

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