Environment Scrutiny Panel

Tuesday 24th January 2006. Le Capelain Room

Present Deputy R.C. Duhamel (Chairman)

Deputy G.C.L. Baudains (Vice Chairman) Connétable K. A. Le Brun of St Mary

Deputy Le Hérissier Deputy S. Power.

Apologies None Absent None

In attendance I. Clarkson, Scrutiny Officer

M. Robbins, Scrutiny Officer.

Senator J. L. Perchard (Items 7-11 only)

Kay Tremellen-Frost, Scrutiny Manager (Items 9-11 only)

Item No	Agenda matter	Action
1.	Water Resources (Jersey) Law 200-	
19.01.06 Item 4	The Panel gave further consideration to the proposal for a review of the Water Resources (Jersey) Law 200- (P. 206 / 2005), and particular consideration was given to making contact with French authorities to elicit technical information that may have been already obtained in that jurisdiction. The Panel agreed that further hydro-geological information was required in the first instance. The French electricity company Electricté de France (EDF) would be meeting States members and the Jersey public in respect of a new nuclear generator. The Panel decided that Connétable Le Brun and Deputy Power should represent the Panel at that presentation in order to establish from the EDF representatives any relevant information of suitable contacts in relation to the geological and hydro geological issues the Panel might wish to examine. The Members agreed to report to the Panel at the next meeting.	KLB, SP.
2	Solid Waste Management Strategy	
19.01.06 Item 4.	Consideration was given to the Solid Waste Strategy and the following outstanding matters for further consideration by the States -	
	1. Location.	
	Choice of Technology Scale of the Plant.	
	The Panel was informed that a meeting had been arranged in Guernsey on Thursday 26 th January 2006 and the Chairman advised the Panel that it was his intention to attend. The Panel noted that there had been conflicting views relating to the issue of Guernsey shipping waste to Jersey for disposal, which had been published in the media by various interested parties. Attendance at the meeting might offer encourage resolution by confirming Guernsey's intentions.	RD
	The Panel established that issues requiring further examination included -	IC, MR

	 The current position of the States. To that end, the transcript of the states debate was requested. The percentage removed through the waste hierarchy and the reasonable target being well in excess of the 32% as suggested in the Solid Waste Strategy. Materials Analysis to provide data on which the necessary decisions could be based, showing that there are routes available that have not been examined at present. The Panel decided to invite Deputy G. de Faye, Minister for Transport and Technical Services, to meet the Panel in an informal meeting dedicated to the Waste issue. 	IC, MR
3 19.01.06 Item 4.	Planning The Panel was advised that Deputy Baudains was interested in pursuing a review of the Planning Laws. The terms of reference for this would have to be wide to allow a full investigation to be undertaken although a degree of self-discipline was required to maintain focus. Suggested Terms of Reference was offered to the Panel. (Attached) The Panel received a copy of the Shepley Review of Planning and Building Functions, dated November 2005 Concern was expressed that some of the work proposed might have been completed in that report and the Panel agreed to discuss the matter further at the next meeting once the document had been studied. (Connétable K. A. Le Brun of St Mary and Deputy S. Power left the meeting.)	All Panel
4 23.12.05 Item 6 (k).	Energy Policy The Panel agreed that it was not the remit of the Scrutiny Panels to create new policy but to review ongoing or developing policies being undertaken by the Minister and Department concerned. This included the Building Regulations which related to energy.	
5	Review Topics List The Panel considered that it was important to maintain an up-to-date list of topics for potential review. To that end it requested an up-to-date list be provided to the Panel each quarter to establish if there was scope to commence a new topic.	IC, MR
6 23.12.05 Item 6 (c).	Planning Notes The Panel considered the issue of room sizes currently being constructed for residential units and associated car parking spaces. The Panel accepted that these issues were covered by Planning Policy Notes rather than the Building Bye Law 2004. As Deputy Power had expressed particular interest in pursuing this topic prior to leaving the meeting, it was decided to defer this topic to a subsequent meeting when all members were present.	
7 19.01.06 Item 4.	Strategic Travel and Transport Plan The Panel considered the Strategic Travel and Transportation Plan (P. 174/2005) lodged "au Greffe" on 30 th August 2005. It was agreed that the document presented a draft for further work to be	

	done by the Minister. Concern was expressed that the document could be detrimental if passed by the States in its present format. Discussion followed to establish whether it was appropriate to review the transport document in its present form or to wait for the matter to be debated in the States on 14 th March 2006 with the Panel responding to initiatives created within the debate. Notwithstanding an appreciation of specific interests for aspects of this topic within the Panel and an approach from the public relating to taxis, it was considered that the appropriate course of action at this time was to wait for the States debate.	
8	Method of working The Panel considered its method of working when conducting reviews. Agreement was reached that no one member should be expected to conduct a review on his own and that at least two members should be working together at all times. One member would be the lead member and the other or others would assist. To this end it was considered that items could be dealt with in the following manner: • Waste Deputy R.C. Duhamel (Chairman) • Planning Deputy G.C.L. Baudains (Vice Chairman) As there were members not present, the Panel proposed to confirm this suggestion at the next meeting and appoint assistant members to the topics.	All Members
9	Waterfront Strategy Meeting In preparation for the informal meeting to be held that evening in response to the Review of Planning and Building Functions, relating to The Waterfront, consideration was given to the approach to be taken. A consolidated approach was agreed, offering involvement at strategic and policy level rather than dealing with the issues of individual buildings and planning issues. Senator Perchard, who was in attendance in the capacity of an observer, was invited to make comment which lead to consideration of the driving forces behind the planning objectives on the Waterfront. Consideration was given to the improved ambiance of the Waterfront over the Christmas period showing which had reflected the potential of the area.	
10 10.01.06 Item 8	Website development The Panel agreed that the site needed to be eye-catching, with appropriate background and offering links to other sites, clarity, user friendly with easy access. The Panel accepted that research of other sites that seemed to offer suitability for purpose and which may include Maidstone Borough Council site would be of benefit to the development process.	All Members
11	Date of next meeting The Panel noted that the next meeting would be scheduled for 7.30pm on Thursday 2 nd February 2006 at St Clements Parish Hall. This meeting would be in public session and advertisements should be placed in the Jersey Evening Post highlighting the purpose of the meeting. Discussion ensued as to the purpose of the meeting and the extent to which the public should be permitted to become involved.	IC, MR

Signed

Deputy R.C. Duhamel Chairman, Environment Panel