

# Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

## PUBLIC MEETING

### Record of Meeting

Date: 27th May 2009

Meeting 26

Present	Senator S.C. Ferguson, Chairman Deputy C.H. Egré, Vice-Chairman [Absent for Items 1 – 3] Connétable D.J. Murphy [Absent for Items 1 -6 and part of 7] Deputy T.A. Vallois
Apologies	
Absent	
In attendance	Deputy M.R. Higgins, Chairman – Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel [Co-opted for Item 7, Present for all Items] Professor M. Oliver [Part of Item 7 and Items 10 – 17]  Mr. W. Millow, Scrutiny Officer Mr. M. Robbins, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p><b>1. Action Updates</b></p> <p>The Panel noted the update on actions requested at its previous meetings.</p>	
06/05/09, Item	<p><b>2. Public Finances Law – Proposed Changes</b></p> <p>The Panel recalled its agreement to present comments on <i>Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2005: Proposed Changes (P.54/2009)</i> as lodged by the Public Accounts Committee. It was noted that the Panel's other work commitments had not allowed time to date for comments to be drafted. The Panel was advised that P.54/2009 was due to be debated on 2nd June 2009 and it was therefore noted that there potentially remained some time for comments to be drafted and presented.</p>	
	<p><b>3. Public Accounts Committee</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that a meeting between the Finance Sub-Panel and Public Accounts Committee had not yet taken place but would be re-arranged for a time when the Panel's workload would allow it.</p>	MR
06/05/09, Item 2	<p><b>4. Annual Business Plan</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that a request had been made to the Chief Minister's Department for a timetable of development for the 2010 Annual Business Plan and that, in response to this request, a Part B paper of the Council of Ministers had been received. The paper would be distributed in due course.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that a briefing from Mr C. Swinson OBE, Comptroller and Auditor General, had been arranged for 2nd June 2009. It was further advised that the Public Accounts Committee would undertake work on the 2009 Annual Business Plan.</p>	WM / MR
06/05/09, Item 7	<p><b>5. Deemed Rent</b></p> <p>The Panel recalled its agreement to forward a copy of <i>Deemed Rent</i></p>	

27th May 2009

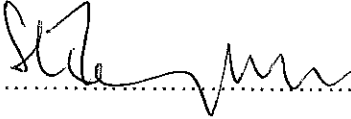
513/15(8)	(P.161/2009) (SR2/2009) to the Director of International Tax and noted that this had not yet occurred. It was further noted that follow-up work on the Deemed Rent review had provisionally been placed in the 2009 Work Programme for later in the year.	
06/05/09, Item 21	<p><b>6. Drug Trafficking Confiscation Fund</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that information had been circulated following its request for clarification regarding <i>Drug Trafficking Confiscation Fund (DTCF) Grant Recommendations – December 2008</i> (MD-TR-2009-0055). It was further noted that consideration of whether to undertake further action in relation to the DTCF would be placed on the Panel's next agenda.</p>	MR / WM
14/05/09, Item 1  513/19(8)	<p><b>7. Economic Stimulus Plan</b></p> <p>The Panel received an update on its review of the Economic Stimulus Plan. It was noted that the Panel's report would need to be presented by 10th June 2009 and the timescale for finalising and approving the report was therefore tight. It was noted that a first draft of the report would probably be distributed on 1st June 2009 and that final approval would most likely be required over the week-end of 6th June 2009.</p> <p>The Panel considered the evaluation process undertaken by the Department of Treasury and Resources, for the various requests for finance from the Stabilisation Fund. Noting that the Panel had previously rejected the option to enter the evaluation process, the Panel still wished to familiarise themselves with the bids and establish if the Treasury had correctly evaluated them in that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) they were appropriate and fit for purpose in themselves;</li> <li>b) they were a suitable form of intervention; and</li> <li>c) each bid was an appropriate use of the discretionary fund.</li> </ul> <p>The Panel also questioned if the local workforce would support the application of the aggregate bids or if the sudden influx of work was likely to create large amounts of economic leakage from the island.</p> <p>The Panel considered a document produced by the advisor, Professor M. Oliver which brought the Panel's attention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the large workforce in the finance and retail sectors who appeared to have no bids relating to them;</li> <li>• the co-ordination of the application of the bids; and</li> <li>• the speed of the States bureaucracy process.</li> </ul> <p>The Panel noted that the evaluation documents promised to have been supplied by the Treasury on 26th May 2009 were not available. The documents relating to the Economic Development and Housing bids had not been forthcoming.</p>	
06/05/09, Item 11  513/20(8)	<p><b>8. Finance Sub-Panel</b></p> <p>The Panel received an update from the Finance Sub-Panel on its review of expenditure forecasting. It was noted that Public Hearings had been held on 26th May 2009 and that a report was awaited from the Sub-Panel's expert advisor, Professor M. Oliver.</p>	
06/05/09, Item 12  513/18(8)	<p><b>9. Migration and Population</b></p> <p>The Panel received an update on the work of the Migration and Population Sub-Panel, noting that a report on the proposed Population</p>	

	<p>Policy of the Council of Ministers was being drafted. It was noted that formal Panel and Sub-Panel approval would be required on 28th May 2009 and Members were therefore requested to check their e-mails on that evening.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that a complaint had been received from the Chamber of Commerce regarding the time allowed for comment on the factual accuracy of the draft report. It was noted that the Chairman had responded to the Chamber of Commerce and that she would forward a copy of the correspondence to the Scrutiny Office.</p>	SF
06/05/09, Item 13	<p><b>10. Rapporteur: Information Technology, Human Resources and Emergency Planning</b></p> <p>The Panel noted there was no update to receive on the work of the Rapporteur.</p>	
06/05/09, Item 4  513/16(8)	<p><b>11. Waterfront Enterprise Board</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that, at its next meeting, it would be asked to consider an evaluation of its review of <i>Waterfront Enterprise Board: Revised Memorandum and Articles of Association (P.12/2009)</i> in accordance with Paragraph 11.21 of <i>Code of Practice for Scrutiny Panels and the Public Accounts Committee</i>.</p> <p>The Panel further noted that plans were currently being developed for a Jersey Development Company and that the proposals would merit scrutiny in due course.</p>	
	<p><b>12. Forthcoming Propositions</b></p> <p>The Panel noted that the following proposition had been lodged for debate by Senator P.F.C. Ozouf, Minister for Treasury and Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Commissioners of Appeal for Income Tax: Appointment (P.70/2009)</i></li> </ul>	
	<p><b>13. Ministerial Decisions</b></p> <p>The Panel noted recent Ministerial Decisions that had been taken by Senator T.A. Le Sueur, Chief Minister, and the Minister for Treasury and Resources.</p>	
	<p><b>14. Legislative Scrutiny</b></p> <p>The Panel noted receipt of a paper from the Chairmen's Committee regarding the scrutiny of legislation.</p>	
	<p><b>15. Future Meetings</b></p> <p>The Panel noted its next scheduled meeting would take place on 10th June 2009.</p>	
06/05/09, Item 20	<p><b>16. Strategic Plan</b></p> <p>The Panel recalled its agreement to present comments on <i>Strategic Plan 2009 – 2014 (P.52/2009)</i> and noted that a draft had been prepared. It was advised that the Chairmen's Committee had subsequently agreed to present one set of comments on behalf of Scrutiny that would incorporate the views of all Panels. Noting that its own comments would be incorporated into those of the Chairmen's Committee, the Panel endorsed the draft that had been prepared.</p>	
	<p><b>17. Records of Meetings</b></p> <p>The Panel approved and signed the records of its meetings held on the following dates:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 24th April 2009</li><li>• 28th April 2009</li><li>• 28th April 2009 [Private Session]</li><li>• 1st May 2009</li><li>• 6th May 2009</li><li>• 6th May 2009 [Private Session]</li><li>• 11th May 2009</li></ul>	
--	--	--

Signed

Date:

 .....

24/05/09

Chairman, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel