

Chairmen's Committee

Record of Meeting

Date: 14th July 2017

Present	Deputy J.A.N. Le Fondré, President and Chairman, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel Deputy R. Renouf, Chairman, Health and Social Security Scrutiny Panel Deputy D. Johnson, Chairman, Environment, Housing and Infrastructure Scrutiny Panel Deputy J.M. Maçon, Vice-Chairman, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Apologies	Deputy L.M.C. Doublet, Vice-President and Chairman, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel Deputy S.M. Brée, Chairman, Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel Deputy A.D. Lewis, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee
Absent	
In attendance	Deputy T.A. Vallois (Items 4 and 5) Mr T. Oldham, Head of Scrutiny

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	1. Records of meetings The Committee approved the records of its meetings held on 13th and 29th June 2017. The records were signed accordingly by the President.	
	2. Activity Reports Panel and PAC activity reports were noted by the Committee.	
13.06.17 Item 4 510/1(86)	3. Protocol for Engagement between Scrutiny Panels/PAC and the Executive The Committee received an update from the President on the progress of the Working Group. It was noted that the Protocol had been forwarded by the working group to the Council of Ministers for its consideration. Work was now underway on drafting of the 'Scrutiny/PAC Proceedings: Code of Practice'.	JLF/DJ/ RR/TO
16.05.17 Item 3 510/1(46)	4. Role and Appointment of Assistant Ministers The Committee noted law drafting instructions issued by the Chief Minister, particularly those in relation to proposed changes to the role of Assistant Ministers and Scrutiny. It recalled that the Committee had previously written to the Chief Minister raising strong objections about related proposals. It noted that it has not received a response to that correspondence, and that the law drafting instructions had been issued with no consultation. The Committee expressed its dissatisfaction with the approach of the Chief Minister to this issue and confirmed its strong reservations to the proposals.	

	<p>The Committee was informed that at Panel level, both the Education and Home Affairs and the Economic Affairs Panels had considered the matter and also strongly opposed the proposals, for reasons including the potential damage to the public perception, independence and objectivity of scrutiny. It was agreed that the Chief Minister appeared to demonstrate a lack of understanding or acknowledgement of core principles of good scrutiny.</p> <p>It was agreed that the President would contact the Chief Minister to again relay the Committee's position, including a request not to lodge any related proposition without full scrutiny consultation. A timetable for associated work would be requested.</p>	TO/JLF
511/2 (3)	<p>5. Care of Children in Jersey Review Panel</p> <p>Consideration was given to the most effective framework for scrutiny of the implementation of the recommendations of the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry. It was agreed that a Review Panel should be established, and that this should be progressed accordingly.</p> <p>The Committee discussed its concerns about the Chief Minister's proposed Advisory Panel and inclusion thereon of Scrutiny members. This appeared to represent a clear risk to the independence and role of Scrutiny, and could serve to significantly compromise other core principles as well as member resources.</p> <p>The Committee agree to request to meet the Chief Minister at 5.30pm on 18th July, to discuss his intentions and relay the Committee's concerns and its agreed approach to scrutiny of this important work.</p>	TO
16.05.17 Item 5 511/2/1	<p>6. Residential Property Transactions Review Panel</p> <p>The Committee noted that work was underway on the Review Panel's planned re-scoping of its work.</p> <p>The Committee gave consideration to the current situation regarding the PAC Chairman, Deputy A.D. Lewis, who was a member of the Review Panel. It was noted that Deputy Lewis had stepped aside from all work with his Committee and had delegated his chairing responsibilities pending the outcome of PPC investigation into findings of the Independent Jersey Care Inquiry relating to him. It was agreed that the Review Panel Chairman would discuss with him any similar intentions regarding his role with the Review Panel.</p>	DJ
	<p>7. Brexit Review Panel</p> <p>The Committee confirmed the establishment of a Brexit Review Panel. A scoping document and terms of reference would be forwarded to the Committee for approval in due course.</p>	
	<p>8. Future Hospital Review Panel</p> <p>It was noted that consideration was being given by the Corporate Services and Health and Social Security Panels to the establishment of a Review Panel as the most effective structure to undertake work examining the next phase of the Future Hospital project. This met with</p>	

	the approval of the Committee. Details would be finalised shortly and a scoping document and terms of reference would be forwarded to the Committee for approval.	JLF/RF
	<p>9. Future Meetings</p> <p>It was agreed that the Committee's next meeting was scheduled to take place on 19th September at 9.30am, Le Capelain Room, States Building.</p>	TO

Signed

Date:

President, Chairmen's Committee