PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

(20th Meeting)

(Business conducted by electronic mail)

10th September 2007

<u>PART A</u>

All members were present with the exception of Connétable T.J. du Feu of St. Peter, Messrs. M. Magee, C. Evans and A. Grimes.

Deputy S.C. Ferguson, Chairman Senator J.L. Perchard Connétable D.J. Murphy Deputy A. Breckon Deputy J.G. Reed

R. Bignell Advocate A. Ohlsson

In attendance -

Mrs. K.M. Larbalestier, Acting Clerk to the Public Accounts Committee

Note: The Minutes of this meeting comprise Part A only.

Annual Business Plan 2008 (P.93/2007): comment. 1038/1/1/63(1) A1. The Committee, with reference to its Minute No. A1 of 3rd September 2007, considered a draft comment which had been prepared in response to an amendment to P.93/2007, which had been lodged "au Greffe" on 1st August 2007 by the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture. The Minister's proposed amendment sought to secure future funding in order to extend opportunities for children aged three and four years to access 20 hours per week free education during term time.

The Committee recalled that the Comptroller and Auditor General was conducting a review of financial management and control in the Education, Sport and Culture Department. It was likely that this would be the subject of a public hearing by the Public Accounts Committee. As the completion of this report was considered to be important a comment had been prepared in response to the above amendment to the effect that it should be withdrawn pending the completion of the review and, if necessary, brought back to the Assembly as a separate proposition.

The Committee accordingly approved the comment and requested that it be presented to the States on 11th September 2007.