

Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel

PUBLIC MEETING

Record of Meeting

Date: 16th September 2009

Meeting Number: 25

Present	Connétable G. F. Butcher Deputy R. G. Le Hérisssier, Chairman Deputy M. Tadier Deputy T. M. Pitman
Apologies	
Absent	
In attendance	Mrs. E. Liddiard, Scrutiny Officer Mrs. M. Pardoe, Scrutiny Officer Miss. S. Power, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p>1. Records of Meetings</p> <p>The records of the meetings of 12th August 2009, 13th August 2009, 7th September 2009 and 9th September 2009 were approved and signed.</p>	
	<p>2. Matters Arising</p> <p>The Panel noted the status of action updates from the previous meeting on the 12th August 2009.</p>	
Item 3 12.08.09 516/16(8)	<p>3. Fort Regent Review</p> <p>The Panel noted that the final draft of the report was being drafted, to include key findings and recommendations, which would then be circulated to Panel Members for discussion and approval.</p>	
Item 4 12.08.09 516/19(8)	<p>4. Schools Suspension Review</p> <p>The Chairman of the Sub Panel provided an update on the progress of the review to the Panel. It was noted that the Sub-Panel would be interviewing three potential advisers on Friday 18th September. It was further noted that the call for evidence advert would be re-issued for two nights with a deadline of the 30th September 2009. The Panel noted that the cost of this advert was £521.18, which would come from its approved budget of £7,900 for this review.</p> <p>The Panel noted that there were indications that some members of staff within the Education, Sport and Culture Department and the Home Affairs Department would have key information to contribute to the review, however may not feel comfortable speaking publicly at a Hearing, with the Chief Officer present, as prescribed by the Code of Practice for Scrutiny Panels and the Public Accounts Committee. The Panel therefore requested a letter to be drafted to both Ministers explaining that whilst it was vital for the Panel to hear from the Minister and the Chief Officer on the official policy, it was also imperative that front line staff were able to speak openly about any issues regarding the</p>	SP

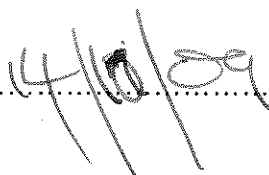
	implementation of the policy, or the way in which it operated. The Panel therefore requested for the letter to ask for the Ministers agreement for staff to be approached directly by the Panel, and invited to speak in confidence at a Hearing, in accordance with the Code of Practice, should they wish to do so.	
Item 6 12.08.09 516/21(8)	5. Sex Offenders (Jersey) Law 200- The Panel noted that the Sex Offenders (Jersey) Law 200- was scheduled for debate on the 6 th October 2009. It was noted that this was a vital piece of legislation, and the Panel was therefore reluctant to cause any delay to the debate. It was however agreed that the Panel had some queries regarding the details of the legislation, and the Panel therefore agreed to invite the Minister for Home Affairs to attend a Public Hearing in advance of the debate to discuss the draft legislation in more detail. It was noted that the Officers would produce a scoping document and terms of reference for this review. The Panel requested a call for evidence advert to be drafted and placed in the Jersey Evening Post to raise awareness of the Panel's brief consideration of this legislation and to invite anyone wishing to make a submission to do so. The Panel agreed it would then hold further hearings with other individuals if necessary, prior to presenting comments to the States in advance of the debate.	EL/SP
516/22(8)	6. Higher Education Fees Review It was noted that this review would begin once the Fort Regent report had been presented. It was requested for the terms of reference and scoping documents to be placed on the agenda for the next Panel meeting scheduled for the 14 th October 2009. Deputy Le Hérissier asked for the Greffier of the States to be contacted to ascertain whether he would be conflicted with this review as a result of his work at Highlands College.	EL SP
	7. Forthcoming Legislation The Panel noted forthcoming propositions lodged " <i>au Greffe</i> " pertinent to the Panel's remit.	
	8. Ministerial Decisions The Panel noted receipt of recent Ministerial Decisions pertinent to its remit.	
	9. Questions to Ministers The Panel noted that the Minister for Home Affairs and the Chief Minister would take questions without notice at the States sitting of 22 nd September 2009, and that the Ministers for Social Security and Planning and Environment would take questions without notice at the States sitting of 7 th October 2009.	
516/1(44)	10. 2010 Annual Work Programme The Panel noted it wished to begin consideration of its work programme for 2010 at its meeting on the 14 th October 2009. It was noted that one factor they may wish to consider was the issue of Criminal Injuries Compensation.	EL/SP
	11. Pre-School Clubs The Panel noted an email from Deputy Tadier regarding pre-school	

	clubs. It was agreed that Deputy Tadier would forward his email to the Minister for Education, Sport and Culture to request clarification regarding the current situation, and would revert back to the Panel accordingly.	MT
510/1(15)	12. 2009 Budget Update The Panel noted that as of 9 th September 2009 its current expenditure was £15,497.09.	
	13. Future Meetings The Panel noted that the next Panel Meeting would take place on the 14 th October 2009 at 9.30am in Blampied Room, States Building. It was noted that this was scheduled to be a quarterly meeting with both Ministers; however the Panel agreed that they wished to revert to holding biannual Public Meetings with the Ministers, and therefore requested the Officers to cancel the scheduled Public Meetings.	EL/SP

Signed

Date:





Chairman

Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel