

Chairmen's Committee

Record of Meeting

Date: 19th May 2015

Present	Deputy J.A.N. Le Fondré, President and Chairman, Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel Deputy L.M.C. Doublet, Vice-President and Chairman, Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel Deputy S.M. Brée, Vice-Chairman, Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel
Apologies	Connétable J.E. Le Maistre, Chairman, Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel Connétable A.S. Crowcroft, Chairman, Environment, Housing and Technical Services Scrutiny Panel Deputy R. Renouf, Chairman, Health and Social Security Scrutiny Panel Deputy A.D. Lewis, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee
Absent	
In attendance	Mr T. Oldham, Scrutiny Manager

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	1. Records of meetings Due to apologies received, consideration of the record of the meeting held on 29th April 2015 was deferred until the following meeting.	
	2. Activity Reports The Committee noted the Panel and Public Accounts Committee activity reports.	TO
465/4(14)	3. Privileges and Procedures Committee: update The Committee considered a briefing paper on the deliberations of the above Committee. There was some uncertainty in respect of the current stage of the work being undertaken by the Standing Orders and Internal Procedures Sub-Committee, and it was agreed that the Scrutiny Manager would seek further information.	TO
10.02.15 Item 10 510/1(5)	4. Code of Practice for engagement, for the purposes of Scrutiny, between elected Members conducting Scrutiny and Ministers and Assistant Ministers The Committee noted completion of the section regarding legal advice. It re-considered the section on compliance, noting that it had previously agreed to make a representation to the Privileges and Procedures Committee in relation to sanctions for breaches to the Code by any member of the Executive and any member serving on Scrutiny. It was agreed that further research on the processes in other jurisdictions would be undertaken and considered by the Committee before that representation was made.	TO
512/27	5. Public Sector Reform Review: Public Accounts Committee The Committee received and noted a scoping document and terms of reference in relation to the above Review. It was further noted that Deputy S.M. Wickenden would not take part in the Review due to a	

	declared interest, and it was agreed that this would be clarified with the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee at the next scheduled meeting.	
513/45	<p>6. Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP): Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel</p> <p>The Committee recalled that the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel had, after liaison with the Chairmen's Committee, agreed that it would not set up a sub-Panel for the purpose of its overarching Review of the MTFP. Should they wish to do so, individual Panels would review the detail of the MTFP relevant to their associated departments. It had been agreed that good cross-Panel communication would be paramount and that the most appropriate formal forum for doing so would be the Chairmen's Committee. Relevant briefing papers would be circulated as and when necessary, in addition to other relevant communication at Member or Officer level as need arose.</p> <p>Whilst retaining this framework for Scrutiny's work on the MTFP, it was agreed that it would benefit the comprehensiveness of the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel's Review if it was to receive written feedback from each Panel on key areas. To help achieve consistency, it was agreed that the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel might circulate a list of those areas it would like to be covered, along with a proposed timetable. The Committee agreed that this proposal would be communicated to all Members of the Corporate Services Panel and Chairmen's Committee.</p>	JLF/TO
513/46	<p>7. Jersey International Finance Centre Review: Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel</p> <p>The President updated the Committee with regard to the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel's Review of the Jersey International Finance Centre. It was noted that the Panel continued to await receipt of a key document for its Review, the BNP Paribas Real Estate appraisal of the planned development, despite repeated requests since March 2015 through the Minister for Treasury and Resources. A requirement from the States of Jersey Development Company for the Panel Members and relevant Scrutiny Officers to individually sign a highly restrictive Non-Disclosure Agreement, that was entirely disproportionate to the usual trust based process for receipt of confidential documentation by Panels, had been received on 18th May. This came despite the Panel's confirmation of its agreement to more proportionate terms of confidentiality offered by the Minister for Treasury and Resources for in order to receive the BNP Paribas Real Estate documentation on 1st May. This agreement had postponed the Panel's agreed need, in the absence of reasonable co-operation, to pursue summoning the States of Jersey Development Company to provide the documentation. This process was now likely to re-commence. The delay in receiving this documentation was also significantly impacting on the ability of the Panel's adviser, Ernst and Young LLP, to complete its work.</p>	
511/1(59)	<p>8. Scrutiny Panels: Officer Resources</p> <p>The Committee was updated as to the current staffing levels within the Scrutiny Office to support the work of the Panels and Committees, noting current vacancies. It was further noted that to preserve an appropriate level of support it was intended that recruitment would be</p>	

	<p>pursued to fill a vacant Scrutiny Officer post. Due to the vacancies and increasing Panel workloads, the Committee was advised about the need to re-allocate a small number of Officers to try to maintain appropriate support to Panels.</p> <p>It was agreed that associated matters, including the use of advisers and additional research capacity, might be discussed again at the next meeting of the Committee, so that feedback and ideas from all Chairmen could be taken into account. Indeed, due to the enforced absences at the Committee's meeting it was agreed that the Scrutiny Manager would communicate, at the earliest opportunity, to all Chairmen the situation as discussed regarding staffing.</p>	TO
<p>13.01.15 Item 10</p> <p>510/1(64)</p>	<p>9. Blackberries/mobile devices</p> <p>The Committee recalled the situation in relation to mobile device contracts. It was noted that the means by which Ministers and/or Assistant Ministers were funded for such devices was a decision by individual Departments, but that this may change in the future with procurement aiming to finalise a piece of work on the matter in the second quarter of 2015.</p> <p>The Committee re-confirmed that it fully supported the principle of addressing any disparity between the provision of devices to Ministers and Assistant Ministers and Scrutiny Chairmen, and that work should continue to provide Chairmen with relevant devices accordingly. The appropriate provision of suitable devices for other Scrutiny members should also continue to be considered.</p>	TO
<p>10.12.14 Item 1</p> <p>511/1(42)</p>	<p>10. Business Cards</p> <p>The Committee agreed that an improved quality of business card was required and agreed that the Scrutiny Manager would seek appropriate sources. Consideration was also given to the content of the card. It was noted that with the cards being funded from the Scrutiny budget it was appropriate that they should remain predominantly focused on Scrutiny roles, although reference might be made to other States positions and titles. As such the status quo regarding content would remain.</p>	TO
<p>510/1(3)</p>	<p>11. Media Training</p> <p>An update on the positive uptake of media training was noted and it was agreed that Chairmen and their Officers would remind Panels of the opportunity at forthcoming meetings.</p>	Chairmen/TO
	<p>12. Future Meeting</p> <p>It was noted that the next meeting date was 9th June 2015, 9.30am-11.30am, Le Capelain Room</p>	