

Health, Social Security and Housing Scrutiny Panel

Minutes

Meeting 22

Date: 9th June 2008

Location: Blampied Room, States Building

Present Deputy A. Breckon, Chairman
Deputy R.G. Le Hérisssier
Deputy S. Power

Apologies Deputy J.A. Martin, Vice Chairman

In attendance Mr C Ahier, Scrutiny Officer
Mr M Orbell, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p>1. Minutes of previous meetings</p> <p>a) Notes of the private meeting of 23rd May 2008 with the Minister for Health & Social Services were approved and signed.</p> <p>b) Minutes of the meeting of 23rd May 2008 were approved and signed.</p>	
18.03.08	<p>2. Matters arising</p> <p>Chairman and Panel Members' Actions</p> <p>Copies of the GP Out of Hours Report requested following Meeting 18 were distributed. A number of issues were highlighted for further questions. It was agreed to circulate copies to members of the original Sub-Panel on the GP Out of Hours Review (in confidence as it was unclear whether the report was yet in the public domain) to ask for their comments by the 20th June. It was further agreed that a Public Hearing should be held to address the issues identified and that Health Department representatives should be invited to attend for this purpose following the Panel meeting scheduled for 24th June 2008.</p> <p>The Panel noted that it would address other actions under separate agenda items.</p>	<p align="center">CA</p> <p align="center">CA/MO</p>
	<p>3. Forthcoming Propositions</p> <p>The Panel noted that there were no forthcoming propositions lodged for debate by the States up to 1st July 2008 that had not previously been considered by the Panel.</p>	
	<p>4. Questions to Ministers</p> <p>The Panel noted the forthcoming arrangements for questions without notice to Ministers.</p>	
	<p>5. Recent States Sittings</p> <p>The Panel was advised that a summary of issues raised at the States sitting of 13th May relevant to the Panel would be circulated</p>	<p align="center">MO</p>

	<p>Chairman and Scrutiny officer had been due to meet the Housing Minister the week before but the Minister had not attended at the appointed time; the meeting had been rearranged and it was still intended to discuss the Sub-Panel's intentions concerning a report on housing market conditions, to obtain Ministerial support and facilitate access to necessary information.</p> <p>While it was no longer expected that the Sub-Panel would be carrying out a full review into housing market conditions it was suggested that it may be beneficial to call upon the services of a housing expert to review the findings of the Housing Needs Survey and assist with any eventual report. The Panel was reminded that Professor Steve Wilcox of the University of York was widely respected and already had some familiarity with Jersey's housing situation; it was suggested that it may be appropriate to approach the Professor to act in this capacity in due course.</p> <p>9. New Directions</p> <p>The Panel considered that it was still unclear as to whether the Minister for Health & Social Services or his Chief Officer was fully committed to the New Directions policy at the present time. Given all the delays the Panel did not expect to have time remaining to undertake a review in this area. However the Panel held to its previous agreement to defer a final decision about the review until after the meeting of the Council of Ministers on Thursday 12th June when New Directions was expected to come up for Ministerial approval. It was suggested that it may be appropriate for officers to contact the Department immediately following the Council of Ministers' meeting to discover the outcome.</p> <p>10. Long Term Care of the Elderly</p> <p>a) The Panel was advised that an evening meeting with the adviser had been arranged at a local restaurant at 8.15pm on Thursday 12th June. Deputy Power would join the group later owing to a prior commitment.</p> <p>b) & c) Arrangements for Public Hearings on 26th-27th June and 29th & 30th July and a Public Meeting on 29th July were in hand.</p> <p>d) The Panel expressed its approval of a draft 'Call for Evidence' advertisement with some minor alterations to wording suggested. It was agreed that this should be placed in the Jersey Evening Post at a date to be agreed.</p> <p>e) It was felt that Channel 103's audience was probably not ideal for this review and an advertisement placed with them would not offer value for money. However the information contained in the JEP advertisement would be reworded in a general media release which it was hoped would be covered by BBC Radio Jersey and attract additional attention in the press and other media.</p> <p>f) It was agreed that dates for a visit to gather evidence on the Guernsey Social Insurance Scheme would be discussed with the adviser on 13th June.</p> <p>g) An article from the Times of 14th May 2008 'Spare a few quid for the rich old folk' was noted.</p> <p>h) The Panel also noted the Commission for Social Care Inspection report 'See me, not just the dementia – Understanding</p>	<p>SP/MO</p> <p>MO</p> <p>CA</p> <p>MO</p> <p>CA/MO</p> <p>CA/MO</p> <p>RLH</p>
--	--	--

	people's experiences of living in a care home.'	
	<p>11. Annual Business Plan</p> <p>A paper on the Capital Programme 2009-2013 was distributed to the meeting and noted.</p>	
	<p>12. Pandemic Flu Vaccine</p> <p>a) The Health Minister and Departmental officers were to attend a Public Hearing on preparations for Pandemic Flu immediately following the meeting.</p> <p>b) Members received copies of the draft question plan for the Public Hearing previously agreed by Deputy Le Hérisier in his capacity as lead member for Health matters.</p>	
	<p>13. R.48/2008 States' Spending Review - Emerging Issues</p> <p>Time pressure prevented discussion of this report from the Comptroller and Auditor General. (To be added to the next Panel agenda.)</p>	CA/MO
	<p>14. Law Drafting Programme</p> <p>Members noted the Law Drafting Programme for 2009, the majority of which was seen to be in the areas of Economic Development (finance) and Home Affairs.</p>	
	<p>Future Meetings</p> <p>The Panel noted that the next meeting would be at 9:30am on Tuesday 24th June in the Le Capelain Room, States Building.</p>	

Signed

Date

.....

Chairman, Health, Social Security and Housing Panel