

SOCIAL AFFAIRS SCRUTINY PANEL
Meeting held on Monday 9th January at 09:30am

Present	Deputy F.J. Hill, B.E.M., Chairman Deputy J.A. Martin, Vice Chairman Deputy D.W. Mezbourian Deputy A.E. Pryke Deputy S. Pitman
Apologies	
Absent	
In attendance	Mrs. K. Tremellen-Frost, Scrutiny Manager (for a time) Mr. C. Ahier, Scrutiny Officer Mr. W. Millow, Scrutiny Officer

Item No.	Agenda matter	Action
1.	<p>To prepare for Ministers' [Social Security, Health and Social Services and Home Affairs] attendance on the Panel</p> <p>The Panel discussed the benefit of visiting the departments within their remit in order to familiarise themselves with the work undertaken. It was agreed to discuss this with the Ministers.</p> <p>The Panel further agreed to request an organisation chart detailing relevant officers, their titles and contact details from the Ministers.</p>	<p>CA WM</p>
2.	<p>Meetings with Ministers for discussion of their proposed work programmes</p> <p><u>Minister for Social Security</u></p> <p>Deputy P. Troy, Assistant Minister for Social Security, accompanied by Mr. T. Gales, Policy Director and Mrs. S. Duhamel, Quality Systems Executive, attended upon the Panel.</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed the delegation from the Social Security Department and invited them to outline the main areas of their forthcoming work programme.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that the Income support proposals were likely to be the main area of interest for any review. The Panel was further advised that the proposals were scheduled to be in place by May 2007 and in preparation for this the policy and structure needed to be finalised by the end of 2006.</p> <p>It was suggested that the Panel refer to P.86/2005, RC 48/2004 and RC 49/2004 for further information.</p>	

In addition a briefing note had been provided to the then Employment & Social Security Committee at its meeting of 17th November 2005. The Panel requested the Scrutiny Officers to circulate these documents to all Panel members (RC48/2004 & RC49/2004 were circulated to Panel members during the course of the meeting).

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The Panel agreed to meet on either Wednesday 25th or Thursday 26th January to receive a presentation on the Income Support proposals.

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Minister for Health & Social Services

Senator S. Syvret, Minister for Health, accompanied by Deputy C. Scott-Warren, Assistant Minister, Mr. M. Pollard, Chief Executive, Mr. R. Jouault, Director of Corporate Planning & Performance Management, and Mr. A. Bannister, Projects Officer attended upon the Panel.

The Chairman welcomed the delegation from the Health Ministry and invited them to outline the main areas of their forthcoming work programme.

The Minister for Health advised the Panel of 5 main areas:

- The new Public Health Strategy;
- A review of Cardiology
- A review of long-term care
- Proposals for the GP out of hours emergency service
- Establishing a private hospital

RJ
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The Director of Corporate Planning & Performance Management undertook to forward further background details relating to the 5 main areas discussed for the Panel's consideration.

Minister for Home Affairs

Senator W. Kinnard, Minister for Home Affairs, Deputy A. Lewis, Assistant Minister, and Mr. S. Austin-Vautier, Director attended upon the Panel.

The Chairman welcomed the delegation from the Home Affairs Department and invited them to outline the main areas of their forthcoming work programme.

The Minister for Home Affairs advised the Panel of 5 main areas:

- Criminal Justice Policy
- BASS strategy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMI report and recommendations on the prison • Progress relating to the recommendations contained in the Dorey Panel drugs review concerning Home Affairs • Disorderly conduct and harassment law <p>The Director of Home Affairs undertook to forward further background information relating to the 5 areas discussed for the Panel’s consideration. The Director was further requested to forward Business Plans for each of the Departments within the Home Affairs Ministry.</p> <p>The Chairman, with the assistance of Deputy Mezbourian, undertook to examine the Criminal Justice Policy and assess the case for initiating a review.</p> <p>The Panel requested the Scrutiny Officers to contact the relative Scrutiny Liaison Officers and confirm which of the topics discussed with the Ministers were their highest priority and clarify the time scales involved. The Panel also decided to follow up the requests for supporting documents from the relative Ministries.</p> <p>The Panel discussed the possible creation of sub-Panels for particular reviews. The Panel noted that the available resources would remain the same.</p> <p>The Panel requested that a list of possible scrutiny topics already identified be drawn up and circulated for the Panel meeting on Thursday 26th January.</p> <p>The Chairman informed the Panel that the Chairman’s Committee was seeking two additional Panel members.</p>	<p>SAV</p> <p>BH DM</p> <p>CA WM</p> <p>CA WM</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Consideration of Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Panel approved the minutes of the meeting of 19th December 2005 with one amendment to item 5 relating to the Chairman meeting with the media once the Panel’s work programme had been finalised. b) i. The Chairman informed the Panel that Deputy P. Le Claire intended to pursue his proposition relating to a private hospital. ii. The Scrutiny Officers confirmed to the Panel that media training for Scrutiny Panel members was being investigated. c) It was confirmed that individual Panel 	

	members had the right to request that their dissent or particular views be minuted.	
4	Future Meetings The Panel noted the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 11 th January 2006.	

SIGNED

.....Date:.....

CHAIRMAN, SOCIAL AFFAIRS SCRUTINY PANEL