

Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel

Record of Meeting

Date: 15th January 2014

Meeting No: 131

Present	Senator S.C. Ferguson, Chairman Deputy J.G. Reed, Vice-Chairman Connétable D.W. Mezbourian
Apologies	
Absent	Deputy R.J. Rondel Deputy S. Power [Absent for Item 3]
In attendance	Mr. W. Millow, Scrutiny Officer Miss S. McKee, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p>1. Records of Meetings</p> <p>The records of the meetings held on 12th, 17th, 18th and 23rd December 2013 were approved and signed accordingly.</p>	
<p>17/12/13 Item 1 513/1(41)</p>	<p>2. Modernisation Programme</p> <p>The Panel undertook a visit to the Department of Social Security to learn more about the Lean Programme. During the visit the Panel received a presentation from the Social Security Chief Officer, Mr. R. Bell, and heard from staff who had undertaken Lean training. The Panel was further provided with a real case study in which Lean had been used to make a task more efficient, for staff and the customer, by significantly reducing the time it took to complete.</p> <p>The Panel recalled that further information had been requested from the Chief Minister's Department at its briefing on 17th December, in regards to the Modernisation Programme. It was noted that this information had not yet been received and the Scrutiny Officer was asked to follow-up on this request.</p>	<p>SM</p>
<p>07/01/14 Item 1 513/36</p>	<p>3. Population and Migration / Long-Term Plan</p> <p>The Panel agreed to defer consideration of the Scoping Document and Terms of Reference until its next scheduled meeting. It was noted that it would be difficult for the Panel to agree the documents until a final draft of the Interim Population Policy had been received. It was further noted that the Panel had some reservations regarding the timetable, which was set out in the draft Scoping Document, for the completion of the review. Although the Panel agreed that the target date for the finalisation of the report was appropriate under the Department's current timetable, it was noted that revision might be needed once the Panel had reviewed the final Policy.</p> <p>The Panel recalled that at its latest briefing it had been advised that the Interim Population Policy would continue to propose a net migration figure of 325 people per year. It was noted that one of the reasons that had been given for this decision was that Departments</p>	

	<p>had continued to use 325 as an annual net inward migration figure for all their planning projections. The Scrutiny Officer was requested to undertake some research into this matter.</p> <p>The Panel recalled that it had previously requested background documentation in respect of the Interim Population Policy. It was noted that a list of source materials, that had been used to develop the Policy, had now been provided by the Department. The list was circulated to the Panel. Furthermore, the Panel noted the contents of a paper that had been prepared which provided details of past States decisions in regards to Population and Migration.</p> <p>The Panel noted that it was due to receive a briefing from Senator P.F. Routier MBE, Assistant Chief Minister, and the Director of Corporate Policy on 16th January 2014 at 3:00pm. It was recalled that the Council of Ministers was due to meet on the 15th January to consider a latest version of the Policy. It was noted that a request had been made for this document to be provided to the Panel prior to its briefing.</p> <p>The Panel further noted that it was due to meet the States Chief Statistician on 17th January 2014 to discuss the underlying figures included within the draft policy. Connétable D.W. Mezbourian gave her apologies for being unable to attend the briefing and meeting.</p>	SM
<p>18/12/13 Item 4 513/1(41)</p>	<p>4. States of Jersey Development Company</p> <p>The Panel recalled its request for research to be undertaken in respect of the States of Jersey Development Company (SoJDC). The Panel further recalled that the Scrutiny Officers had been requested to arrange a meeting with the Managing Director in order to determine whether the timing for a review in respect of SOJDC would be appropriate.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that the meeting had now been arranged and was due to take place on 21st January 2014. It was further advised that the Treasurer of the States had requested to attend the meeting alongside the Managing Director. The Scrutiny Officers were asked to report back to the Panel at the next Panel meeting.</p> <p>The Panel noted receipt of a topic proposal that had been received in respect of the Esplanade Quarter. It was agreed that consideration of the proposal and discussion of a review on this subject would be deferred until the next meeting. The Scrutiny Officers were requested to draft a Scoping Document to help inform these discussions.</p>	SM SM
<p>513/35</p>	<p>5. Medium Term Financial Plan</p> <p>The Panel considered follow-up work to the Scrutiny Review of the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). It was agreed that an assessment of how the accepted recommendations from the initial MTFP Scrutiny Review had been implemented would provide a good basis on which an 'end-of-term' review could be undertaken. It was further agreed that consideration of the work that had been undertaken by the Department in respect of the next MTFP could also form part of the Panel's review. It was noted, however, that given that the next MTFP would not be fully developed until the new Council of Ministers and States Assembly were in place, it was likely there would be limits to how far this work could go and what could be achieved.</p>	

	<p>The Panel considered when it would be feasible to undertake this review. It was noted that the review could potentially begin after Easter, which would allow the Panel enough resources to undertake another review alongside its work on the Interim Population Policy. The Panel also considered whether it would be possible to carry out the 'end-of-term' review at the same time as the review of the Draft 2015 Budget. It was noted that more work would need to be undertaken on the draft Scoping Document in order to establish an appropriate timeframe.</p> <p>The Panel noted that forecasts of expenditure for 2015 would become available from March 2014.</p> <p>The Panel recalled the approach that was taken for the initial MTFP Review, in which every Scrutiny Panel had produced a short report on the draft MTFP in respect of its own Executive Departments. The Panel considered whether the same approach could be undertaken for the 'end-of-term' review of the MTFP. Consequently, the Panel asked for a request to be made for this matter to be raised at the next Chairmen's Committee meeting.</p>	<p>WM</p> <p>WM</p>
<p>18/12/13 Item 5 513/1(41)</p>	<p>6. Independent Taxation</p> <p>The Panel recalled its request for research to be undertaken in respect of Independent Taxation. The Panel was advised that an officer meeting with the Treasurer of the States had now been arranged and was due to take place on 6th February 2014. The Panel therefore agreed to discuss this matter at a subsequent meeting once the Scrutiny Officers had obtained more information. The Panel was advised that, dependent on this information, initial work on Independent Taxation could potentially be incorporated into its review of the Draft 2015 Budget.</p>	
<p>18/12/13 Item 6 513/1(41)</p>	<p>7. States Employment Board</p> <p>The Panel recalled its request for the Scrutiny Officers to arrange a meeting with the Chief Executive to discuss the States Employment Board (SEB). The Panel was advised that a meeting had been arranged for 23rd January 2013. The Scrutiny Officers were requested to report back to the Panel with information at its next meeting.</p>	<p>SM</p>
<p>18/12/13 Item 7 513/1(41)</p>	<p>8. Legislative Process</p> <p>The Panel was advised that, as requested, the Scrutiny Officers had met the Law Draftsman to discuss the legislative process. The Panel was further advised that, although a detailed review on this subject might not be necessary, some work could potentially be undertaken alongside other reviews. The Scrutiny Officer was requested to draft a Scoping Document for discussion at the Panel's next meeting.</p> <p>The Panel was informed that the Law Draftsman had offered to come and speak with the Panel about the Legislative Process. The Panel agreed that such a meeting would be beneficial and the Officer was requested to enact the necessary arrangements.</p>	<p>WM</p> <p>WM</p>
<p>18/12/13 Item 8 513/1(41)</p>	<p>9. Work Programme</p> <p>The Panel, having noted the work undertaken on the four matters of interest which it had identified at a previous meeting, considered its work programme for 2014. It was noted that reviews in respect of the</p>	

	<p>Interim Population Policy and Long-Term Plan; Modernisation Programme; and the Draft 2015 Budget were anticipated, as well as an 'end of term' review in relation to the MTFP. The Panel further noted that Scoping Documents for work on SODJC and the Legislative Process had been requested for its next Panel meeting. It was agreed that a decision would be made at its next meeting in respect of which review(s) the Panel would undertake next and when it would begin its work. The Panel requested the 2014 Business Plans from the Chief Minister's Department and Department of Treasury and Resources.</p> <p>In regards to the Modernisation Programme, the Panel considered which areas it could feasibly cover during a review. It was recalled that the Panel had previously noted that the work-stream of e-government could potentially provide an initial focus for its work. The Scrutiny Officers were requested to undertake research to endeavor to determine when the best time would be for the Panel to undertake a review of e-government.</p> <p>The Panel was advised that an update on the Starter Home Deposit Loan Scheme had been requested and would be provided at its next meeting.</p>	<p>SM/ WM</p> <p>SM</p> <p>WM</p>
	<p>10. Annual Report</p> <p>The Panel approved a draft report on the Panel's activity in 2013 to be included in the States Assembly's Annual Report for 2013.</p>	
<p>13/01/14 Item 1 513/40</p>	<p>11. 2014 Budget</p> <p>An update was provided in respect of the Panel's work on <i>Draft Public Finances (Amendment of Law No.1) (Jersey) Regulations 201- (P.133/2013)</i>. The Panel recalled its decision that its review would lead to the presentation of comments on P.133/2013. The Panel considered the comments it would make following the information it had received at the Public Hearing with the Minister for Treasury and Resources on 13th January 2014. It was noted that the comments would be presented by the Panel to the States Assembly by Tuesday 21st January 2014. The Panel was advised that, in accordance with Standing Order 37A, the comments would need to be finalised and given to the Greffier of the States by mid-day on Friday 17th January 2014. Consideration was given to matters which the Panel wished to cover in the comments; the Scrutiny Officer was requested to draft comments and to circulate them to the Panel once completed.</p>	<p>WM</p>
	<p>12. Future Meetings</p> <p>The Panel noted the dates that had been agreed for 2014 Quarterly Public Hearings with the Chief Minister, Minister for Treasury and Resources and Minister for External Relations. The Panel recalled that meeting requests had already been sent in respect of these Hearings.</p> <p>The Panel noted that its next scheduled meeting would take place at 9:30am on 29th January 2014.</p>	