

# Economic Affairs Scrutiny Sub-Panel (Telecoms Privatisation)

## PUBLIC MEETING

### Record of Meeting

Date: 28<sup>th</sup> November 2007

Meeting Number: 17

Present	Deputy G. P. Southern, Chairman Deputy J.G. Reed Deputy J. A. Martin
Apologies	Deputy G.C.L. Baudains
Absent	
In attendance	Mrs. E. Kingston-Walsh, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
1.	<b>Minutes</b> The Sub Panel approved the minutes of the meeting dated 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2007.	
2.	<b>Matters arising</b>  The Sub-Panel recalled a paper by Professor Massimo Florio entitled 'Telecom Italia 1997-2007: A case study in Privatisation Failures'.  The Chairman advised the Sub-Panel that the legal advisors were unable to respond before 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2007.  He further advised that he had been informed by Professor Parker that the examples given in Annex 5.4 of P.153/2007 were not typical examples and that it would be unwise to rely upon conclusions drawn from them.  The Chairman informed the Sub-Panel that he had been informed of the 'Unite' Trade Union's intention to campaign against the sale of Jersey Telecom.  The officer was directed to establish the current pension package offered by Jersey Telecom.	<b>EKW</b>
3.	<b>Amendment</b>  The Sub-Panel considered the amendment to P.153/2007 proposed by Senator B. Shenton.  The officer was directed to establish the implications of removing table two from the proposition.	<b>EKW</b>

4.	<p><b>Advice request of Professor David Parker</b></p> <p>The Sub-Panel considered the response from David Parker and noted that the response had been sent to the legal advisors.</p> <p>The Sub-Panel approved the invoice from Professor Parker for a sum of £325. The Officer was directed to take the appropriate action.</p>	EKW
5.	<p><b>Protection of the Island's Skill Base</b></p> <p>The Sub-Panel recalled their concern of the future of the Island's skills and training base following the privatisation of Jersey Telecom. It further recalled that new mobile operators appeared to use off-island engineering staff from the parent company when required.</p> <p>The Sub-Panel agreed that it would request further information regarding the composition of Telecoms workforce from the Economic Development Minister.</p> <p>The Officer was directed to take the appropriate action.</p>	EKW
6.	<p><b>Oral Questions</b></p> <p>The Sub-Panel considered oral questions for the next States Assembly.</p>	
7.	<p><b>Number Portability</b></p> <p>The Sub-Panel recalled that the number portability issue was still outstanding and noted concern regarding the powers of the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (JCRA). It questioned how the JCRA would cope with a multi-national company considering the difficulties and costs faced in regulating a States owned utility.</p>	
	<p><b>Future Meetings</b></p> <p>The Sub-Panel agreed that it should meet on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December 2007 to consider and finalise the Sub-Panel's comment to P.153/2007.</p> <p>The Officer was directed to request the legal advice by the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2007.</p> <p>The Chairman agreed to arrange an informal meeting with Mr P. Funk from Newtel Solutions.</p>	

Signed

Date:

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Chairman  
Economic Affairs Scrutiny Sub-Panel (Telecoms Privatisation)