

Economic Affairs Scrutiny Panel

Record of Meeting

17th December 2014

Present	Connétable J.E. Le Maistre, Chairman Deputy S.M. Brée, Vice-Chairman Deputy D. Johnson
Apologies	Connétable M.J. Paddock
Absent	
In attendance	Mr. M. Orbell, Scrutiny Officer

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	1. Records of meetings The Minutes of meetings held on 19th November and 1st and 4th December 2014 were approved and signed.	MO
	2. Schedule of meetings The Panel considered an amended schedule of meetings. It was agreed that no meeting would take place on 18th February 2015. Other meetings listed to take place during school holiday periods would remain on the schedule, but could be reviewed in light of member availability nearer the time.	MO
515/1/1(5)	3. Rural Economy Strategy 2016 The Panel welcomed the Director, Environmental Management and Rural Economy; the Rural Economy Manager; the Land and Horticultural Development Manager; and the Entomologist and Head of Plant Health from the Department of the Environment for a briefing on the Rural Economy Strategy (RES) 2016. It was noted that Scrutiny engagement with the previous RES had been considered useful by the department, and it was hoped that similar involvement of the new Panel would also prove beneficial. The target date for the new strategy to be debated was September 2015, and it was expected that an 8 week consultation period based on an 'issues and options' paper would begin early in the New Year. A costed White Paper was expected to be prepared during the second quarter of 2015. It was noted that there might be a case for a combined review with the Environment, Housing and Technical Services (EHTS) Panel due to the shared responsibility for the Rural Economy between the departments of Economic Development and Environment; members agreed that an approach should be made to that Panel.	JLM/ MO
	4. Chairmen's Committee Following comments during Scrutiny training sessions the question of public versus private meetings had been further discussed at a Chairmen's Committee meeting on 8th December 2014. The Panel reaffirmed its earlier decision to hold its scheduled meetings in private. It was noted that the Chairmen's Committee had agreed to supply business cards to Scrutiny members.	MO

513/47	<p>5. Renaming of Ministers and Transfer of Functions</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that he had agreed to take part on a co-opted basis in a review to be carried out on this topic by the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel. This was expected to be a high level review of the process adopted, so there could be an opportunity in due course for the Economic Affairs Panel to look in more detail at how the transfer of functions would affect the operation and budgets of the Economic Development Department.</p>	MO
515/1/1(4)	<p>6. Financial Services Ombudsman</p> <p>The Panel agreed that it would not seek to review the draft Financial Services Ombudsman (Case Fee and Levy)(Jersey) Regulations 201-, although it was suggested that it could revisit this matter at a later date to look at the process eventually adopted for setting levies.</p>	MO
515/1/1(5)	<p>7. Topic proposals from a member of the public</p> <p>The Panel considered 2 topic proposals potentially within its remit submitted to the Scrutiny Office by a member of the public. With regard to a suggested review of Pubs and the Licensed Trade, members decided that it would be preferable to wait until new licensing standards were issued before considering this topic. It was agreed that the wider alcohol strategy did not fall entirely within the Panel's remit, aspects to do with alcohol abuse and health being more relevant to the Health, Social Security and Housing Scrutiny Panel. It was noted that that Panel had already considered the same topic proposals and had advised that it would not be taking them further.</p> <p>In respect of Trading Standards and the Citizens' Advice Bureau, the Panel agreed that it did not intend to address this topic in the short term. The Scrutiny Officer was asked to convey the Panel's decisions to the member of the public.</p>	MO
	<p>8. Forthcoming meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit to St. Helier harbour with Group Chief Executive, Ports of Jersey: 9.30am on 19th December 2014, Maritime House • Visit to Jersey Airport and briefing with Group Chief Executive, Ports of Jersey: details to be confirmed • Next scheduled Panel meeting: 9.30am on 14th January 2015, Blampied Room, States Building 	MO