



## PRESS RELEASE

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**Under embargo until 00:00 on Friday 2nd October 2009**

### **Scrutiny Report on Proposed Jersey Development Company**

A Sub-Panel of the Corporate Services Scrutiny Panel has completed its review of the proposal to establish a States of Jersey Development Company. In its report, the Sub-Panel has found that the proposals of the Council of Ministers lack clarity. Advice received during the review was that the new Company would not merely be the Waterfront Enterprise Board (WEB) by another name: whilst it would have a wider geographical remit, its operational rôle would in fact be more limited. The proposition did not accurately convey this fact, however, and the Sub-Panel has recommended that the proposition be amended to ensure there is sufficient clarity. Furthermore, the Sub-Panel has recommended that a review of the activities undertaken by WEB, and the assets it currently holds, should be undertaken. In part, such a review would address the negative perception that has grown up around WEB and which was acknowledged by all witnesses to whom the Sub-Panel spoke.

Deputy Collin Egré, Chairman of the Sub-Panel said:

**“In 2008, we reviewed proposals for a Jersey Enterprise Board that ultimately were shelved as more work was required. In reviewing the follow-up to those proposals (the proposition for a Jersey Development Company) we acknowledge that a great deal of work has been done. However, more work is required to ensure that the operation and accountability of the new Company can be clearly understood.**

**The Chief Minister has described this proposition as a last chance to get this right. Given the general perception that exists in relation to WEB’s work in the past, we would not disagree with him. We have recommended actions to be taken, actions that we believe are vital for these proposals ultimately to succeed.”**

**Ends**

**For Media Interviews:**

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**Notes to editors:**

Sub-Panel Membership:

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Deputy Debbie de Sousa, Vice-Chairman

Senator Sarah Ferguson

Connétable Silva Yates

Deputy Tracey Vallois