



Thursday 18 June

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT IN INFORMATION SECURITY

Comptroller and Auditor General issues latest report

Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG), Karen McConnell, has today (18 June 2015) published a summary report into Information Security within the States of Jersey. In her report Karen McConnell states that information must be held securely because it can be sensitive, commercially confidential or subject to legal constraints. At the same time there are increased and new threats as organisations and individuals seek to access data for criminal or malicious reasons.

This review focussed on both States-wide arrangements and those in a sample of departments. The summary report issued today concludes that more needs to be done to move information security from being seen as primarily a technical issue to one of importance to all.

A detailed report has been issued to management, recommendations have been agreed and steps are being taken to implement those recommendations.

Karen McConnell said:

“Information security of all data, wherever or however it is held, is of crucial importance to all organisations including the States of Jersey. The States have a demanding and necessary reform agenda which has e-government at its core, enhancing the importance of information security. Embedding improved arrangements for information security can most effectively be done alongside the development of e-government and as part of wider reform.”

The report will be available on the Jersey Audit Office’s website from 0930 on 18 June at: www.jerseyauditoffice.je

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Notes to Editors:

- The Office of Comptroller and Auditor General ('C&AG') was established in 2005 and operates under the Comptroller and Auditor General (Jersey) Law 2014
- The remit of the C&AG includes the audit of financial statements and wider consideration of public funds, often expressed as 'value for money'
- Karen McConnell was appointed in 2013 and the term of office was extended in 2014 to December 2019.
- Formerly of the UK Audit Commission ('the Commission'), Karen held a variety of senior positions, including leading the Audit Practice
- The Office of Comptroller & Auditor General is known as the 'Jersey Audit Office'
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Comptroller and Auditor General's Policy regarding issue of reports and contact with the media:

- Press releases will be published by the Jersey Audit Office to accompany the publication of each report
- Embargo times will be set at 0001 hours on day of publication - for both press releases, reports, and all other information pertaining to the publication date
- Other press releases/ statements may be made on an occasional basis, and not necessarily dependent upon the publication of a report. They will be subject to the same embargoes
- With any report issued, the opportunity is available for members of the press to request factual clarification, by email, of points contained therein
- Any comments made additional to any reports, will be included within any press release(s) as issued by the Jersey Audit Office, in the form of a quotation by the C&AG. These comments will be available for publication; but there will not be any supplementary live or pre-recorded interviews offered or undertaken by either Karen McConnell or the employees of the Jersey Audit Office
- The C&AG is prepared, on an occasional basis, to provide articles for publication in the local media, following a specific request and consideration of the relevant topic
- All public information, including press releases and reports, are accessible on the Jersey Audit Office website at www.jerseyauditoffice.je

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