



JERSEY AUDIT OFFICE

Improvements needed to Internal Audit *Comptroller & Auditor General issues latest report*

The Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG), Karen McConnell, has today (21 March 2014) published a report into Internal Audit within the States of Jersey ('the States').

The report focuses on the way Internal Audit supports the complex financial arrangements within the States, and how the function forms a key part of the States' governance arrangements, which provide assurance to management.

In her report, Karen McConnell highlights some gaps to address in key areas, benchmarking Jersey with best practice arrangements in the UK. The C&AG recognises that these gaps have begun to be addressed by the Chief Internal Auditor, who is responsible for Internal Audit. She makes a series of recommendations to further develop a comprehensive and structured approach to ensure appropriate independence, demonstrate that audit risks are being appropriately addressed and develop improved and sustainable arrangements for the future.

Karen McConnell said:

"Internal audit is a key tool to assure management that internal controls, governance and risk management are robust. Its work needs to be clearly targeted at the key risks. The Chief Internal Auditor has made changes but much needs to be done.

"There is a need for a comprehensive review of current arrangements against relevant standards. A detailed action plan should be agreed with stakeholders to ensure that appropriate changes are implemented and embedded in the work of Internal Audit going forward."

The report will be available on the Jersey Audit Office's website from 0930 on 21 March, 2014 at: www.jerseyauditoffice.je

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Notes to Editors:

- The Office of Comptroller & Auditor General ('C&AG') was established in 2005 under the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2005
- 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 to the Post in February 2013, on a two year contract
- 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'
- Contact details are: Lincoln Chambers (First Floor), 31 Broad Street, St Helier JE2 3RR T:716800 / E: enquiries@jerseyauditoffice.je

Comptroller & 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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