



PRESS RELEASE – 05 October 2016

Board of Governance established for the Jersey Audit Office

The States Assembly has appointed Mr Peter Price as the first Chairman and Professor Russel Griggs OBE as a member of the Board of Governance for the Jersey Audit Office.

The Board of Governance was established following a recommendation of the Comptroller and Auditor General in her report Public Audit in Jersey published in July 2013. Comprising the Chairman, up to two other independent members and the Comptroller and Auditor General, the Board enhances the accountability of the Comptroller and Auditor General for the public funds allocated to the Jersey Audit Office.

The Board has a duty to scrutinise both the resources used by the Jersey Audit Office and its governance arrangements and to report any concerns to the Chief Minister and Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. The Board has specific duties, including commenting on the estimates for the Jersey Audit Office, advising on the remuneration and terms and conditions of the Deputy Auditor General and providing an assurance statement on the expenses of the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Mr Price has had an extensive career in law, politics, and wider public service, including 15 years as a member of the European Parliament, where he served as Chair of the Budgetary Control Committee. He is currently a non-executive Board Member of the Welsh Audit Office, and has been a non-executive Director of Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust and a Governor of Thames Valley University.

Professor Griggs is an experienced business professional who has worked in a number of large private businesses as well as with large public bodies and projects. He has held a wide range of executive and non-executive roles in private, public, and charitable institutions, including the Lending Standards Board, Scottish Mines Restoration Trust, Marie Curie Cancer Trust and the Audit Committee of the Department of Employment and Learning in Northern Ireland. He is currently a Board member of Audit Scotland and Chair of its Remuneration Committee.



Comptroller and Auditor General, Karen McConnell, said:

“It is important that, as Comptroller and Auditor General, I am held to account for the use of public funds allocated to the Jersey Audit Office. The establishment of the Board of Governance is a means of enhancing my accountability whilst preserving my independence. I welcome the appointment of Mr Price and Professor Griggs and look forward to working with them. I am confident that their expertise and experience will be of great value to the Jersey Audit Office.”

Peter Price, Chairman of the Board of Governance, added:

“I am looking forward to my new role, helping to secure good value for money for Jersey’s taxpayers and all its citizens. I bring experience in similar roles, which equips me to ensure the accountability of the Comptroller and Auditor General and also to guarantee her independence. First-class auditing of public funds requires that independence to make objective – and sometimes critical – assessments of public services in order to help everyone to achieve improvement.”

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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 and Auditor General is known as the ‘Jersey Audit Office’
- The Comptroller and Auditor General recommended enhanced governance arrangements for the Jersey Audit Office in her report ‘Public Audit in Jersey’ published in July 2013 (<http://www.jerseyauditoffice.je/Publications/Public%20Audit%20in%20Jersey.pdf>)



- The Board of Governance for the Jersey Audit Office was established by the Comptroller and Auditor General (Board of Governance) (Jersey) Order 2015 (<https://www.jerseylaw.je/laws/revised/Pages/24.140.10.aspx>)
- On 14 September 2016, the States Assembly adopted a proposition from the Chief Minister and the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee recommending the appointment of members of the Board of Governance (<http://www.statesassembly.gov.je/AssemblyPropositions/2016/P.80-2016.pdf#search=p.80/2016>)
- Information on the Board can be found on the Jersey Audit Office website at (<http://www.jerseyauditoffice.je/ourboard>)
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