

Governance of the States of Jersey Police Project Specification

Background

The governance of police services is inherently complex as it requires mechanisms for ensuring the operational independence of States of Jersey Police Force whilst at the same time providing mechanisms for implementation of policy objectives and accountability for public funds.

The legislative framework for the States of Jersey Police stems mainly from the States of Jersey Police Force Law 2012 that introduced a Police Authority. As a result, various statutory functions rest with the Chief of Police, the Police Authority, the Minister and the States Employment Board.

A review is timely because it is almost four years since the current arrangements came into effect.

The Functions of the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG)

Article 11 of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Jersey) Law 2014 requires the C&AG to:

- provide the States with independent assurance that the public finances of Jersey are being regulated, controlled, supervised and accounted for in accordance with the Public Finances (Jersey) Law 2005;
- consider and report to the States on:
 - the effectiveness of internal controls of the States, States funded bodies and funds;
 - the economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the way the States, States funded bodies and funds use their resources; and
 - the general corporate governance arrangements of the States, States funded bodies and funds; and
- make recommendations to bring about improvement where improvement is needed.

Objectives

The review will evaluate the effectiveness of the design and operation of the current governance arrangements for the States of Jersey Police.

Scope

The review will not extend to:

- arrangements entirely internal to the States of Jersey Police Force;
- the police complaints process; and
- the governance arrangements for the honorary police.

The objectives and/or scope of the review may be amended in the course of the review in the light of emerging findings or other matters arising.

Approach

The C&AG and Deputy C&AG will:

- analyse and evaluate the current legislation relating to the States of Jersey Police;
- undertake a comparative analysis with the legislation in other jurisdictions;
- undertake structured interview with key stakeholders; and
- evaluate arrangements in practice through two probes, one relating to a staffing and the other to a finance issue.

END