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Comptroller and Auditor General issues 2020 Annual Report and Accounts

The Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG), Lynn Pamment, has published her Annual Report and Accounts for 2020

Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG), Lynn Pamment, has today 24 May 2021 issued her 2020 Annual Report and Accounts.

The Annual Report and Accounts contain:

- a **Performance Report** which comprises:
 - the **overview**, which includes a summary of the work of the C&AG and the JAO in 2020, a statement by the C&AG, highlights of 2020 and a description of the JAO including its purpose and key risks; and
 - the **performance analysis** which provides a detailed view of the JAO's performance. This sets out information on performance against priorities, financial performance, costs compared to other audit offices, website and communications, environmental impact, other non-financial information, risks and priorities for 2021.
- an **Accountability Report** which comprises:
 - the **Corporate Governance Report** which describes the JAO's governance structures and how they support the achievement of its objectives
 - the **Remuneration and Staff Report** which provides information about the remuneration paid to the C&AG, the Deputy C&AG, the Chair of the Board of Governance and independent contractors working for the JAO; and
 - the **Accountability Statement and Audit Report** which brings together two further reports that form a key part of the C&AG's and JAO's accountability. These are the Board of Governance report on the C&AG's expenses and the JAO's independent auditor's report on the annual accounts; and
- the **Annual Accounts**.

LYNN PAMMENT

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2020 was Lynn Pamment's first year in office as the C&AG. It was a year that saw the first ever public consultation exercise undertaken by the JAO, on:

- the revised *Code of Audit Practice*, subsequently issued in November 2020; and
- the potential for changes in public audit legislation considered further in *Public Audit in Jersey: A Thinkpiece* published in January 2021.

Chair of the Board of Governance Grace Nesbitt said:

"2020 was both momentous and challenging for the work of the Office:

- on 1 January 2020, we welcomed Lynn Pamment as our C&AG. Lynn had been in post for less than three months when, in March, the first cases of COVID-19 were identified in the Island of Jersey; and
- 2020 also brought other potentially challenging issues including the resignation of the auditors of the States of Jersey's financial statements and the expiry of contracts of the JAO's pool of affiliates.

Lynn and her very capable team have taken these challenges in their stride. Lynn revised her audit plan in response to COVID-19, appointed new auditors and refreshed the pool of affiliates.

In such circumstances as we have all struggled over the last year we might have expected to see a dip in performance. I am delighted to report that the performance of your Jersey Audit Office has remained strong, especially when compared internationally to other audit offices.

The JAO plays a vital role in holding the States of Jersey to account. It does so with a high degree of professionalism, at minimum cost, independently and without fear or favour."

The 2020 Annual Report and Accounts can be found at: <https://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, corporate governance, internal control and wider consideration of public funds, often expressed as 'value for money'
- The 2021 Audit Plan (including further details of the C&AG COVID-19 work programme) can be found at: www.jerseyauditoffice.je
- Lynn Pamment took up the Office of C&AG on 1 January 2020 for a fixed term of seven years. Following the introduction of the Comptroller and Auditor General (Jersey) Law 2014 the term of office is fixed at seven years and is non-renewable.
- The Office of Comptroller and 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, where set, will be at 0001 hours on the day of publication - for 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 where set
- 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 Lynn Pamment or the staff 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