

Governance of the States of Jersey Police – follow up

Project Specification

Background

In 2018 the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) undertook a review of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the governance arrangements for the States of Jersey Police. The review:

- considered the overall arrangements for the governance of the States of Jersey Police; and
- focussed on two specific areas:
 - one relating to a human resources issue; and
 - one relating to the development of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

The C&AG's report recognised progress made since establishing a Police Authority under the States of Jersey Police Force Law 2012. The report concluded that further steps should be taken to enhance the accountability and operational independence of the States of Jersey Police. A series of recommendations was made relating to:

- overall arrangements
- human resources; and
- financial management.

The implementation of some of the recommendations made was dependent on changes being made to legislation. Amendments to the States of Jersey Police Force Law were approved by the States Assembly in its sitting on 11 May 2021.

The Functions of the 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 of this review

The review will evaluate:

- the arrangements established to manage and monitor the implementation of the agreed recommendations from the earlier C&AG review
- the progress the States of Jersey Police and other stakeholders, where relevant, have made in implementing the agreed recommendations
- the extent to which the recommendations as implemented have addressed the improvement areas identified in the report; and
- the adequacy of plans for the implementation of any outstanding recommendations.

Scope

The review will extend to the implementation of recommendations in so far as they relate to the governance of the States of Jersey Police. It will not extend to:

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

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 work will commence with a review of progress made on the earlier recommendations as documented on the C&AG Recommendations Tracker. The findings of this document review will be followed up by interviews with key officers and potentially with other stakeholders.

The detailed work will be undertaken by an affiliate engaged by the C&AG.

Fieldwork will commence in July 2021.



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