

Public Accounts Committee

Record of Meeting

Date: 15th September 2014

Meeting No: 52

Present	Deputy T. Vallois, Chairman Senator S.C. Ferguson Deputy R. Rondel Deputy G.C.L. Baudains Mr. J. Mills, C.B.E. Mr. I. Ridgeway Mr. R. Parker
Apologies	
Absent	
In attendance	Mrs. K .McConnell, Comptroller and Auditor General Mr. I. Clarkson, Officer to the Public Accounts Committee

Ref Back	Agenda matter	Action
	<p>1. Records of Meetings</p> <p>The record of the meeting held on 18th August 2014 was approved.</p>	
<p>Item 2 23.06.14</p>	<p>2. Conflicts of Interest</p> <p>No conflicts of interest were declared.</p>	
<p>Item 3 18.08.14 512/18</p>	<p>3. Grant to Canbedone Productions Limited</p> <p>The Committee considered an e-mailed statement sent to all States Members by the Minister for Economic Development on 19th August 2014 regarding the former Canbedone Productions film project.</p> <p>The Committee noted that the Minister had again made a series of claims that were difficult for the Committee to accept given the available evidence. These included, but were not exclusive to, the assertion that the grant had been awarded <i>'for pre-production work only'</i> and that the Committee's own findings and recommendations had <i>'been fully acted upon by EDD.'</i></p> <p>The Committee agreed –</p> <p>(a) that the Chairman should consider writing to the Chairman of the States Employment Board and expressing the Committee's concern at the ongoing lack of accountability for the outcomes described in the Committee's 2 reports concerning the film grant; and,</p> <p>(b) that it should present to the States a final report highlighting the Committee's concern that shortfalls in governance and accountability were not yet being addressed effectively.</p>	<p>Chair / IC</p> <p>Cttee/ IC</p>
<p>Item 4 18.08.14 1443/10 (60)</p>	<p>4. Internal Audit Review</p> <p>The Committee considered the responses received following circulation to key witnesses of the Committee's draft report.</p> <p>The Committee was disappointed to note the format, length and degree</p>	

	<p>of repetition present within the response of the Treasury and Resources Department.</p> <p>Having agreed that several minor changes should be made to the content of its draft report, the Committee delegated to the Chairman responsibility for approving a final draft of the same for presentation to the States.</p>	Chair / IC
<p>Item 5 18.08.14</p> <p>512/20</p>	<p>5. Integrated Care Records</p> <p>The Committee received the departmental response to its report PAC.2/2014, together with a report from the Chief Executive, States of Jersey, concerning improvements to project management across the States.</p> <p>The Committee was less than satisfied with the substance and the tone of the responses to recommendations 1 and 2, which effectively contended that little or no change was required. Having recalled the basis for recommendation 1, the Committee remained to be convinced that written reports appended to previous Audit Committee agendas had been sufficient to satisfy recommendation 1. Neither was the Committee satisfied that the response had evidenced compliance with recommendation 2. The Committee considered that it might be appropriate for the its successor to consider following up these recommendations in early course.</p> <p>The Committee was nevertheless pleased to have received the Chief Executive's report, which confirmed the existence of an action plan to raise project management standards across the organisation.</p> <p>The Committee resolved to present the departmental response to the States and to comment on the same in the terms cited above.</p>	IC
<p>Item 6 18.08.14</p>	<p>6. Legacy Report</p> <p>The Committee noted an updated draft legacy report, which included a status report on recommendations made by the Committee since the beginning of its term.</p> <p>The Committee noted that the status report would be presented to the reconstituted committee for consideration in early course.</p>	IC
	<p>7. Codes of Practice and Working Practices</p> <p>The Committee noted a report concerning the development of –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) new codes of practice in accordance with the decision of the States to adopt the Amendment No.25 of the Standing Orders of the States of Jersey, and (b) a working practices agreement between the Committee and the Jersey Audit Office. <p>The Committee noted that the draft codes and agreement would be referred to the reconstituted committee for consideration in early course. It further recommended that the reconstituted committee revisit its terms of reference, as defined in Standing Order 132, with reference to the terms of reference applicable to comparable committees across the British Isles.</p>	IC
<p>Item 8 18.08.14</p>	<p>8. Draft Comptroller and Auditor General (Jersey) Law 201-</p>	

1443/10 (57)	<p>The Committee was advised that the Chief Minister had instructed the Law Draftsman to prepare a draft Order, in accordance with Article 15 of the Comptroller and Auditor General Jersey Law 201-, to establish a board of individuals to carry out functions in relation to the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General.</p> <p>The Committee noted the position.</p>	IC
Item 8 23.06.14	<p>9. Comptroller and Auditor General Work Programme</p> <p>The Committee noted –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) that the jersey Audit Office Annual Letter and Report had been published (R.127/2014 refers); (b) the draft Jersey Audit Office Audit Plan for the period 2014 – 2015, and (c) a draft project specification for a review of private patient income concerning the Health and Social Services Department. <p>The reports cited at (b) and (c) above were received by the Committee in confidence, in accordance with exemption 3.2.1(b) of the Code of Practice on Public Access to Official Information.</p>	
Item 11 23.06.14	<p>10. Chairman's Thanks</p> <p>The Chairman thanked members for their hard work and their support through the period 2012 – 2014.</p>	

Signed

Date:

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Chairman
Public Accounts Committee