

Emerging issues
2008



COMPTROLLER &
AUDITOR GENERAL

APPENDIX ONE ~ PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING THE REVIEW

The Comptroller & Auditor General, Chris Swinson OBE, has announced the terms of a Review of the Effectiveness and Efficiency of States expenditure.

The review will cover all aspects of the operation of the States and will be broadly divided into three stages:

- (1) a review of the £35 million reductions of expenditure which the States will have achieved by the end of 2008;
- (2) a review of States-wide spending; and
- (3) a review of the effectiveness of the process (including the provisions of the Public Finance Law) for the control of expenditure.

The review of States-wide spending will consist of two groups of projects. One group will concentrate on the key departments whilst the other group will examine cross-cutting issues affecting all departments. The five key objectives of each of the project will be to identify:

- (1) Expenditure savings that may be achieved by improving efficiency or effectiveness, without significant impact upon achieving the objectives of the services provided by the States;
- (2) Any improved efficiency or effectiveness, which may lead to improvements in service delivery, whilst not necessarily leading to savings in expenditure;
- (3) Possible savings in expenditure that may be achieved by re-consideration of the services provided by the States;
- (4) The steps that would be needed if potential savings were to be achieved;
- (5) The costs that would be incurred in achieving these savings.

The overall aim of this work is to contribute to the better management of States' expenditure and to provide a basis for informed debate.

The review will lead to a series of reports which will be published in the normal way and then will be considered by the Public Accounts Committee. It is anticipated that the first and second stages of the review will largely have been completed by the late Spring of 2008.