

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE SHADOW CHAIRMAN OF THE
SHADOW PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
BY DEPUTY G.C.L. BAUDAINS OF ST. CLEMENT**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 7th DECEMBER 2004

Question

In the light of recent public comment regarding the Jersey Heritage Trust's management of Mont Orgueil Castle, including such things as the commissioning and placing of statues, would the Shadow Chairman agree to undertake a review of this Body as soon as possible to ensure that public monies are being used efficiently and effectively?

Answer

One of the areas which the Shadow Public Accounts Committee (PAC) intends to review next year is the accountability and corporate governance arrangements over grants paid by States departments to organisations. This follows on from the internal audit report produced earlier this year which identified a concerning lack of corporate governance surrounding the grant paid by the Economic Development Committee to the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (JCRA). The Shadow PAC will be issuing its own report on the lessons to be learnt from the internal audit report on the grant paid to the JCRA in January 2005.

In the absence of a Comptroller and Auditor General, the professional audit support provided to the Shadow PAC is currently supplied by the internal audit department of the States Treasury. The 2005 internal audit plan includes an audit of the grant paid by the Education, Sport and Culture Committee to the Jersey Heritage Trust. The primary objective of the audit will be to confirm how the Education, Sport and Culture Committee administer the grant payment, monitor how the expenditure contributes to their own objectives and satisfy themselves that the money is spent for the purpose intended and with due regard to the principles of corporate governance and value for money. The audit will involve checks at the Department of Education, Sport and Culture and the Jersey Heritage Trust.

The internal audit was scheduled to take place in April 2005. I can confirm that I have instructed that the audit should be brought forward to January 2005 and that the results will be reported to the Shadow PAC. The audit will be managed by the Chief Internal Auditor and undertaken by Foursight Consultants.