

**WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE BY DEPUTY
G.P. SOUTHERN OF ST. HELIER**

ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 21st OCTOBER 2008

Question

In the light of the Comptroller and Auditor General's reservations expressed in paragraph 21 of his report of May 2008 "Emerging Issues" on the scope for further expenditure reductions, does the Public Accounts Committee consider that the savings can be made as efficiency savings, rather than as service cuts?

Answer

The Comptroller and Auditor General's report indicates a number of ways in which the States may be able to go about saving money. These are all clearly set out in his report which was published in May 2008.

The planning required will be the responsibility of the Ministers and of the Council of Ministers but the way in which the suggestions are implemented will, in the end, be a matter for the States.

The Public Accounts Committee believes that in many cases reductions in service will not result from the steps that are eventually taken, although this does not mean that there will be no changes to service.