

**PRESS RELEASE PR001**  
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### **THE NEW “SAINT HELENA AUDIT SERVICE”**

With effect from February 21<sup>st</sup> 2006, the “Saint Helena Government Audit Department” is to be renamed the “Saint Helena Audit Service”.

The creation of the Saint Helena Audit Service is the first of a number of initiatives planned to help promote the work of the Audit Service – clarifying its critical role and the contribution it makes to Saint Helena.

Chief Auditor, Andy Bonner, comments;

*“By removing the direct association to a ‘Government Department’, this move is primarily about emphasizing our independent status. Enjoying the independence that we do is fundamental to our whole operation here and allows us to provide impartial comment and opinion ‘without fear or favour’ upon the numerous Government matters that we consider.”*

The new logo accompanying the change of name was designed by Auditor, Helena Bennett who explains;

*“The symbol contained within the Audit Service logo is representative of what we call the ‘3 E’s’ – economy, efficiency and effectiveness. These are important concepts to us, not only in terms of what we seek to help our clients achieve, but also how we organize and run ourselves as a business operation.”*

Following the change in name, the Saint Helena Audit Service will continue to operate from its base at Garden Hall, Castle Gardens - providing Government and non-Government clients with internal, external and value for money related audit services.

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#### **Background information for editors:**

*The framework within which the Saint Helena Audit Service operates is set in the Audit Ordinance (Chapter 143) which sets out the functions and powers of the official Office of the Chief Auditor.*

*The independent status of the Audit Service has been questioned before with the view that it is compromised because Saint Helena Government retains control over the funding of the Service. The safeguard here is that the Chief Auditor actually carries a professional obligation to make clear in his annual reporting if he believes that he is not being provided with adequate resources to provide a comprehensive and effective Audit Service.*

#### **Contact for more information:**

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