

### **A New Audit Qualification for Saint Helena**

The Saint Helena Audit Service announces today that a partnership agreement has been reached with the Institute of Internal Auditors (UK and Ireland) which will enable students to study for the Diploma in Internal Audit Practice on Saint Helena and sit examinations at Prince Andrew School.

The Diploma in Internal Audit Practice is an internationally recognised qualification and equips students with a thorough grounding in the knowledge and skills required for an Internal Auditing Career. It covers the principles and practices of internal auditing, risk management, control and governance. The level of study is equivalent to the final year of a University degree course.

Bronwen Yon, Internal Audit Manager in the Audit Service, has been accepted this week as the first ever Saint Helena based student on the programme. She has already begun her studies and with a structured distance learning programme to support her, will sit her first examination in November.

Chief Auditor, Andy Bonner, comments

*"I am delighted that the Diploma in Internal Audit Practice has come to Saint Helena. This agreement opens up an important new professional study option for the Audit Service. Reflecting the diversity of the services we provide, it will complement our existing accountancy based study programmes of Certified Accounting Technician (CAT) and fully Qualified Accountant (ACCA)"*

The Saint Helena Audit Service is committed to supporting the professional development of its staff in order for them to realise their potential and be able to maintain a high quality service to clients in accordance with International Auditing Standards.

Connie Stevens, responsible for training delivery and support within the Audit Service comments

*"The hard work that our staff continue to put into their studies is yielding results. The February set of examination results were the strongest since December 2002 with 5 students achieving successful passes. Sheridan Richards, Assistant Auditor, obtained the highest individual mark with an outstanding 84% pass in the 'Information for Management Control' paper."*

International media coverage of Saint Helena's existing accountancy based training, including a profile on Connie Stevens, External Audit Manager, was received in the March edition of "Student Accountant" magazine which can be read at [www.audit.gov.sh/student](http://www.audit.gov.sh/student).

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**Background information for editors:**

More information on the IIA (UK & Ireland) and the Diploma in Internal Audit Practice can be found on their web-site at [www.iaa.org.uk](http://www.iaa.org.uk)

The CAT and ACCA qualifications on Saint Helena are being followed by a number of both Government and non-Government employees. The locally based training provider, Logical Solutions, delivers both courses and support to students. More information on the CAT and ACCA qualification programmes can be found at <http://www.accaglobal.com/>

**Contact for more information:**

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