
MEDIA RELEASE

Report On the Implementation of Recommendations from Selected Government – Related Entities

Auditor General, Heather Thomas, today released a compilation report on the status of Audit Recommendations from Selected Government- Related Entities.

WHY WE DID THIS REPORT

A financial statement audit report package includes audit recommendations to address a risk or close a gap or deficiency identified through the audit. *Mrs Thomas said, ‘The audit recommendation is the guidance given to address a matter raised. Audit recommendations are the vehicles by which audits can truly add value. But it is the actions on audit recommendations – not the audit recommendations themselves that promote improvement in the Government of Bermuda’s financial administration.’*

The Auditor General said, *‘Management is ultimately responsible and accountable for resolving and implementing audit recommendations. At the same time as the Legislative Auditor, I have a duty to follow-up to see that action is taken and the intended results are realised. Due to the backlog in accounts being presented to my office, following-up on the status of audit recommendations implementations has not been timely. Follow up reports, such as this will go a long way to ensure audit recommendations are implemented timely’.*

Today’s report contains a compilation of twenty management self-assessment from selected entities for the years ended 2012 to 2019, resulting in 126 audit recommendations. Heather Thomas said, *‘The entities included in this report reported roughly \$2.4 billion of entrusted assets and \$0.2 billion in obligations owed. Management reported that 98 of the 126 (or 78%) audit recommendations were fully or partially implemented; this is encouraging. 18 of the 126 (14%) had no action taken. I will follow up as necessary on all audit recommendations.’*

You may want to ask the following questions:

- 1. For those recommendations with “no action taken,” why no action has been taken to date?**
- 2. What are the consequences to entities entrusted with public funds and resources with financial statement audits in arrears?**
- 3. When will the accounts in arrears be presented to the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) for audit?**

Reports of the Office of the Auditor General are made available on the Office of the Auditor General website: - <http://oagbermuda.bm/work-in-progress.php>

About the Office of the Auditor General of Bermuda

The position of Auditor General is established under the Bermuda Constitution Order. The specific mandate and responsibilities of the Auditor General are set out in the Audit Act 1990, and include carrying out audits of Government and its organizations and reporting to the legislature.

The mission of the Office of the Auditor General is to add credibility where appropriate to the Government's financial reporting and to promote improvement in the financial administration of all Government Ministries, Departments and all other entities for which the Government is accountable to Parliament.