

ST HELENA GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROGRESS REGISTER AS AT 19 JULY 2018

The Financial Secretary in his capacity as the responsible member of Executive Council submits an update on the action that has either been taken or is planned in response to recommendations contained in the reports of the Public Accounts Committee which have been adopted by Legislative Council.

In accordance with Section 69 (9) of the Constitution of St. Helena “If the Legislative Council adopts a report of the Public Accounts Committee, and requests the responsible member of the Executive Council to advise the Legislative Council of the action proposed to be taken by the Government of St Helena in respect of the report, the member concerned shall convey the Government’s response to the Council not later than the first sitting day following the expiration of six weeks after the date of the Council’s request, unless the Council extends the time for the response.

This report provides responses to the recommendations in Session Paper 06/18 and an update on previous recommendations.

Recommendations will continue to be reported upon until such time as the Public Accounts Committee has confirmed that it is their view that the recommendation has been implemented.

The table below explains the colour coding applied by the Public Accounts Committee for the disposal of recommendations.

Implemented - no further action required and the matter is recommended to be closed.
Accepted – but matter not fully implemented and remains open for action in monitor.
Disputed – requires reconsideration and therefore remains open to monitor.

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No	Date Reported to LEGCO by PAC	Body/Name of report	Recommendation	Responsibility	Response	Management's Recommendation
1	07/10/2014	ESH	ESH should place more emphasis on output and outcome measures both in strategic plans and in non-financial performance reporting.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	ESH as a new organisation is continually developing procedures and policies to ensure that our outcomes are measurable and in line with our refocus. We have also in the past year registered with the Institute of Economic Development (IED) in the UK and currently working towards achieving "excellence in economic development". This will be placed on the internal audit programme once the Internal Auditor is in place. See response to related recommendation number 107.	Open
2	07/10/2014	ESH	ESH will need to develop management information systems to capture timely and accurate information for internal management and external performance reporting to stakeholders.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	ESH has implemented systems and processes to ensure that reporting is accurate and received in a timely manner in order to report accurately to all our stakeholders. We have also implemented a new post; Quality Standards and Information Manager to ensure that this process is done. This will be placed on the internal audit programme once the Internal Auditor is in place. Update – PAC view and proposed action noted.	Open
3	07/10/2014	ESH	ESH should use the commissioning relationship with provider organisations to require data returns, which measure not only inputs but also outputs and measures of impact.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	ESH is continually developing procedures and policies with the various organisations to ensure that data is returned timely and accurately in order to show the impact of the investment to that organisation. Achieving excellence in economic development will assist this process. This will be placed on the internal audit programme once the Internal Audit is in place. Update – PAC view and proposed action noted.	Open
29	29/04/2015	St Helena Fisheries Corporation	Internal management capacity remains a concern and the appointment of a counterpart General Manager will be required if the Corporation is to continue going forward.	SHFC Management Board	Partial implementation. Updated response December 2017 – the Board has appointed a General Manager who will be supported by an Operations Manager with effect from December 2017. Updated response January 2018 – The Operations Manager has been in place as of the 7th December 2017. SHFC has made a bid for funding for a Business Manager and is awaiting confirmation on whether bid was successful. Update July 2018 - SHFC Board continues to monitor this and action will be taken when necessary to maintain management capacity at SHFC.	Open

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31	29/04/2015	St Helena National Trust	The Trust plans to report audited accounts within six-months of the financial year end and requests a standing extension from the Governor until such time as section 18(1) of the Ordinance may be amended.	Trust Director & President	The Trust President and Director are currently reviewing the Ordinance with a view to suggesting amendment to section 18(1) along with a number of other amendments. Amendment bill drafted and provided to Social & Community Development Committee for consideration. Trust President and Director are continuing to pursue this through the channels as directed by the Attorney General and Elected Members with a view to the amendment being taken to formal Legco soon. Updated response July 2018 – The Social and Community Development Committee has considered and endorsed the recommendations for legislative changes and these are now ready for presentation to Executive Council to stand as Government Business at Legislative Council.	Open
33	29/04/2015	St Helena National Trust	The Trust reviews requirements for reporting on individual donor funded projects, to ensure that specific conditions are met in respect of any project completion audits, required by donors, in addition to the Trust financial	Trust Director	In progress. The requirements for reporting on individual donor funded projects are reviewed to identify specific conditions that may not be met by the annual financial statement audit. Updated response July 2018 – no further update.	Open
52	18/07/2016	Enterprise St Helena	ESH must report on outputs and outcomes in the annual report and uphold their commitment to do in future financial statements.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	SP15/17: The ESH DFID project log frame includes outputs, outcomes as well as overall impact and a detailed report is provided annually to DFID as part of the ESH Annual Review. A summary of this report is included in the ESH Annual Report. Update - See response to related recommendation number 107.	Open
53	18/07/2016	Enterprise St Helena	ESH must start to objectively report on its contribution to the economic growth using indicators with the hope of measuring the impact on the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in future years.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	Constraints relating to availability of a robust methodology and necessary data have prevented SHG from providing accurate calculations of GDP. As a result ESH has been using "Annual Private Sector Expenditure" (as quantified in National Accounts methodology) as a proxy measure for GDP. Going forward it will be easier to determine relevant and meaningful indicators as SHG is now addressing this issue. Updated response March 2018 – No further update. Update – Part of our log frame targets on Phase 2 with DFID and SHG is to increase the sustainable economic development of St Helena. Our first indicator is to state the total annual SHG revenue collected from private sector sources (£) which is obtained from the SHG Corporate Finance Budget book. Our second indicator is to establish the average (median) employee income from employment (£) which is also taken from St Helena National Statistical Yearbook.	Open

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56	18/07/2016	Enterprise St Helena	ESH should consider re-adopting the incubator unit concept so as to foster development of start-up businesses.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	<p>This was withdrawn by SHDA when the additional units in HTH and New Ground were built. Board decided at the time that these should no longer simply be "incubator" units; noting the lack of suitable commercial floor space. If ESH were to insist on people moving on after a set number of years (originally it was 3 years max in a unit) we could well be putting supported entities out of business.</p> <p>Updated response December 2017 – Due to the lack of commercial space currently experienced here on St Helena, it would not be prudent for ESH to force our existing tenants out of their units after a period of say 3 years. This could result in businesses then failing and the funding that ESH has given to these businesses being lost to the Island. The PAC needs to note that Enterprise St Helena does not have a capital programme to create any additional units for new business or step up units for our existing tenants. However the ESH Board has reviewed our grants policies and will continue to review the policies on an on-going basis and has and will adjust them to assist the start-up business or for growth in businesses.</p> <p>Update - See Rec 107</p>	Closed
60	18/07/2016	St Helena National Trust	SHG should work with SHNT to prepare a condition survey to augment the register of the Island's built heritage (using the Crallen and Jeffs reports) and develop a strategy for the prioritisation of future management and maintenance given the significant long-term economic potential particularly in terms of tourism.	SHG/SHNT	<p>Heritage Working Group established by Chief Sec.</p> <p>Updated response July 2018 – No further update.</p>	Open
61	18/07/2016	St Helena National Trust	SHG needs to make a decision how the heritage assets are managed, decide which properties should be transferred or leased to SHNT.	SHG/SHNT	<p>Discussions with Crown Estates ongoing.</p> <p>Updated response July 2018 – No further update.</p>	Open
63	18/07/2016	St Helena Hotel Development Ltd	SHG should document how it intends to manage the capital risk associated with the public investment in the hotel venture through SHHDL.	Directors	<p>SHG will document this in due course.</p> <p>Updated response December 2017 - This is in progress, to be finalised before the end of the current Financial Year.</p> <p>Updated response July 2018 – The Financial Secretary has been tasked by EXCO to put forward an options paper to address the funding needs of the hotel.</p>	Open

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64	18/07/2016	St Helena Hotel Development Ltd	SHG develop a time bound exit strategy for disposal of the public investment in SHHDL.	Directors	This will be developed in due course Updated response July 2018 – The Financial Secretary has been tasked by EXCO to put forward an options paper to address the funding needs of the hotel and this will encompass a proposal to kick start the exit strategy.	Open
65	18/07/2016	St Helena Fisheries Corporation	SHFC differentiates between local and export markets and introduces local and export tariffs which would benefit fisherman and keep cost down in the local market.	General Manager & Management Board	It is virtually impossible to differentiate between the local and export markets unless there is a huge subsidy in place. The factory needs at least 500-tonnes of raw material in order to bring the production unit cost down to a possible break-even situation; so far we have not been able to achieve this volume of fish purchases. Bearing the above mind, the export trade market prices are virtually set by the buyers for the major canneries and there is very little room for price movements – what is helping the corporation at the moment is the exchange value of the Euro against the British Pound as the European buyers' deals in Euros. SHFC has developed TOR for a business improvement working group which will address local pricing. In addition, SHFC is exploring options in relation to exporting fresh fish via air freight. Updated response March 2018 – Trials for exporting fish via airfreight has been successful and the Improvements working Group are exploring options in this area which will be presented to the Board and ExCo in due course.	Closed
66	18/07/2016	St Helena Fisheries Corporation	SHFC prioritise the lifting of the MFV Extractor so that the proceeds of the SHFC shares can be realised.	General Manager & Management Board	The correct lifting gear in place and once the MFV Extractor returns from its current mission (fish tagging and policing of our EFZ), a date will be fixed to lift the vessel before the financial year end. Updated response December 2017 – Share purchase agreement completed in August 2017. Updated response March 2018 – Complete. It is proposed that this matter is now closed.	Closed
69	18/07/2016	Connect Saint Helena Ltd	Connect publish the financial performance of the different operating segments within the Annual Report	Chief Executive Officer	While the financial reporting standard FRS 102 used by the company for financial reporting does not require segmental reporting, Connects board receives segmental performance reports for decision making through monthly management accounts. Updated response January 2018 – See response to related recommendation number 101.	Closed
71	18/07/2016	Connect Saint Helena Ltd	SHG explain whether value for money was obtained for the aid-funded water design project that was subsequently written-off by Connect.	Financial Secretary	A response will be provided for the 24/03/2017 formal Legislative Council meeting. Updated response March 2018 – An overview of the benefits of this project to St Helena was given to Legislative Council at their formal session in January 2018.	Open

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72	18/07/2016	Currency Fund	SHG perform the required research and publish a report to assess the merits and demerits to maintaining the St Helena Pound and the Currency Fund.	Financial Secretary	A review was commissioned and a presentation has been made to the Economic Development Committee on the initial findings. It was agreed that the follow up action as recommended in the initial report should be followed through and this is ongoing. No report can be published at this stage as all the work has not yet been completed. Updated response January 2018 – See response to the related recommendation number 126.	Closed
73	18/07/2016	Currency Fund	Commissioners assess the different options regarding the issuing of commemorative coins, and specifically whether these should be deemed as legal tender.	Financial Secretary	This will be considered by the Commissioners of Currency. Updated response December 2017 – To be considered by the Commissioners of Currency in due course. Updated response July 2018 – No further update.	Open
75	18/07/2016	Bank of Saint Helena Ltd	BOSH communicate the new initiatives with regards to the introduction of plastic money to the island to make the public aware.	Managing Director	The Pilot Program of the Local Debit Card was scheduled to roll-out in November 2016. However the upgrade of the Bank's systems caused some programming issues, these issues are now in hand, and the Bank has commenced testing the local debit card in-house with a scheduled date for the Pilot at the beginning of April 2017. During this interruptive phase participants in the program were kept informed of developments throughout. Marketing will commence shortly once the Bank is happy with the in-house testing. Updated response March 2018 – BoSH has and continues to communicate to the public in respect of the introduction of new initiatives. This forms part of the bank's communication strategy. 1 Dec 2017 saw the official launch of the Local Debit Card Service and new account packages the various marketing mediums were used prior to and will be continued to be used over the coming months to ensure public awareness and encourage customer take-up.	Closed
77	18/07/2016	Bank of Saint Helena Ltd	SHG determine its future strategy with respect to the SHG shareholding in the Bank and explore options for disposal or dilution of shareholding through an independent public offering.	Financial Secretary	This will be considered by SHG in due course. Updated response March 2018 - no further update.	Disputed
95	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Connect St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	Connect includes its performance information as part of their Annual Report and Financial Statements and must report on its year on year performance on its indicators.	CEO, CSH	Performance information and KPIs as published in Utilities Regulatory Authority's report are now included in the annual report under the strategic report section.	Closed

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96	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Connect St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	Connect's Annual Report and Utilities Regulatory Authority report be made available in the Public Library and the Castle for citizens who do not have access to the internet.	CEO, CSH	Connect will provide bound copies at the same time as the reports are uploaded to the website.	Closed
97	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Connect St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	Connect's Annual Report must be thoroughly reviewed by the governance structures (Board and/ or Audit Committee) before signing off so as to ensure that any inaccurate or misleading statements are not published.	CEO, CSH	Board and Audit Committee review the accounts before sign off. The audit committee is now fully functional.	Closed
98	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Connect St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	Connect implements measures to accurately quantify, as well as minimise, the water losses in the distribution networks. Presently unaccounted water losses are estimated to vary between 10% and 50%.	CEO, CSH	The program has commenced with Ladder Hill losses measured at below 10%. Belstone is the second area where metering is in place and initial readings have been taken and once the second readings are taken the loss in this area can be quantified. The third area is also in Levelwood below the Kingdom Hall. The program is implemented with a rolling program of bringing additional areas online.	Open
99	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Connect St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	Connect records and maintains flow data information if necessary using maps developed initially for the 1990 to 2010 Water Plan and that these Water Plans be updated 5-yearly and published.	CEO, CSH	Connect has comprehensive raw flow data from all water sources which are recorded on a daily basis. The data is essential to the management of our water resources.	Open
100	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Connect St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	Recognising the redirection of funds to prioritise the alleviation of the drought and ensure water security, SHG must clarify their strategic intent, as no formal change has been made to the strategic objectives set out in the Strategic Development Plan regarding access to treated and tested water.	Chief Secretary	An update will follow. Note that the 10 Year Plan for Saint Helena states "We will have a long term water strategy for the Island, supported by adequate infrastructure, in order to reduce the impact of drought and climate change".	Closed

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101	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Connect St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	Connect discloses in the Financial Statements its operating segments, specifically water and electricity, for the benefit of the users of the Financial Statements.	CEO, CSH	The March 2017 annual report includes a segmental performance summary under the Financial Performance sub-section of the Strategic Report within the annual report.	Closed
102	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Enterprise St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	ESH publish their Annual Report and Financial Statements as a combined document as implied by section 10 of their Ordinance.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	For the 2016/17 two documents were prepared as we were audited again by an International auditing company. It is not a requirement under FRS102 for the Annual Report to be audited. According to the Ordinance we need to prepare both and submit them to SHG which we have done. The Annual Report was approved prior to it being released to the public and as such we will continue to prepare 2 documents as the Annual Report is released within one month after year end and the Accounts are only released once the Auditors have completed their audit.	Closed
103	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Enterprise St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	ESH consolidates the financial results of Bertrand's cottage in their financial statements as a subsidiary.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	Under FRS 102 the accounts of a subsidiary do not have to be consolidated. We have reported these accounts under the Equity basis.	Open
104	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Enterprise St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	ESH determines its future intentions with regards to its ownership in Bertrand's cottage as a training facility and standalone business. A medium term exit strategy should be developed within the next twelve months.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	Update – Bertrand's Cottage will still be used as a training facility for at least the next 15 months to June 2019 due to the funding received from DFID under our Phase 2 project. Bertrand's Cottage will remain to be divested thereafter.	Open
105	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Enterprise St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	ESH record all identified risks in their strategic and operational risk registers and develops practical mitigation plans. ESH submits its Strategic Risk Register to enable PAC to reconcile the challenges noted in the Annual Report.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	Update - The risk register is updated on a monthly basis and will be submitted to the PAC after year end.	Open

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106	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Enterprise St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	ESH should refer to its Board for reconsideration the SHDA policy with regards to the incubation unit leasehold terms so as to provide for a suitable economic climate for emerging entrepreneurs.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	Implemented. See response in December 2017 for the related recommendation number 56.	Closed
107	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Enterprise St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	ESH during its strategic planning phase sets KPIs that are based on outputs and/or outcomes rather than the inputs or activities. Progress against these output/outcome based KPIs are then expected to be reported in the Annual Report.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	The ESH Annual Report 2016/17 reports on KPIs. Update - All KPI'S will be reported on in the Annual Report as well as progress against them.	Open
108	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Enterprise St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	In order to achieve value for money, ESH should ensure that all training that is being provided is accredited with a recognised external provider and can be benchmarked internationally.	Chief Executive for Economic Development	Update - All accredited training facilitated by ESH is done through an external provider however there will always be a demand for unaccredited training which ESH will also facilitate.	Closed

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109	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Bank of St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	BOSH looks at improving efficiency and therefore profitability through office automation as well as growing the service offer.	Manager, BOSH	<p>The Bank's systems upgrade in December 2016 has made provision for a number of improvements in current processes, it also provided the foundation for new and improved products and services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Local Debit Card services · IVR card support services · Extended Business Online Banking features (Journals, BACS & Direct Debits) · Receipt printing · Improved customer on-boarding processes · Automation of customer statements · Additional KYC modules to improve customer identification processes <p>Projects in development and testing include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · New lending modules and platforms · PIN/Pad teller machines (card services) · Comprehensive Anti-money Laundering product · Online Banking international remittance features · International prepaid card (travel card) for locals – still in negotiation stages · Merchant remote management card services <p>Current implementation studies include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Virtual Cards (closed loop) · Visa/MasterCard issuing licensing · Visa/MasterCard acquiring licensing – to include POS and ATM acquiring capabilities · Closed loop ATM feasibility 	Closed
110	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Bank of St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	BOSH uses the feedback from the pilot period of the project to correct or rectify any issues that would have been noted before going live.	Manager, BOSH	All feedback received throughout the local debit card trial were considered and addressed accordingly. Issues identified during the trial were rectified and accepted prior to official service launch.	Closed

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111	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Bank of St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	BOSH, ESH and SHG consider partnerships that will see the ESH advisors and SHG representatives' abroad (South Africa, Falklands, United Kingdom) assist bank clients that may be experiencing complications with their bank cards/ bank queries.	Manager, BOSH	BOSH endeavours to work in partnership with ESH and SHG and their representatives and advisor where necessary. If bank card/bank queries are received from customers the bank readily assist with, often with positive results at this time.	Open
112	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Bank of St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	BOSH set a structured training programme for its staff members and also includes overseas training as appropriate.	Manager, BOSH	BoSH has this matter in hand, staff training programmes are currently being put into place which will include overseas training/exposure as appropriate and the necessary budget arrangements are being considered. It is expected that the MD will depart the island during this year for training and exposure along with other Senior Officers and staff over the coming years. A written response will be provided.	Open
113	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Bank of St Helena Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	SHG as shareholder set financial performance expectations in terms of profitability, growth and dividend policy.	Financial Secretary	To be implemented for the 2018/19 financial year. <i>Update July 2018: No further update at this stage.</i>	Open
114	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	St Helena Fisheries Corporation 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	SHG explore the introduction of an export credit scheme to help SHFC with cash if they can produce documents to prove export shipment.	Financial Secretary	An initial review of an export credit scheme was considered in January 2017 at which time it was concluded that it would not be prudent to enter into such an arrangement given the substantial loan balance already provided by SHG, the historical financial performance of the Corporation, and the fact that such a scheme did not encourage effective cash management.	Closed

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115	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	St Helena Fisheries Corporation 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	PAC notes with concern, the high electricity bills that SHFC is paying and encourages SHFC to further improve energy efficiency and negotiate with Connect a bulk user electricity tariff.	General Manager, SHFC	<p>SHFC has undertaken an energy monitoring scheme to determine factory energy usage based on electricity circuits (freezer/chillers, lights, sockets, ice plant). SHFC GM produced an operational review in August 2017 which was presented to SHG outlining findings.</p> <p>SHFC operational management has in place energy saving initiatives which include switching of lights and appliances when not in use however, the ultimate major source of energy consumption is as a result of the factory's cold-rooms (which is not controllable by operational daily use initiatives), nevertheless during the week long shutdown in November 2017 all chiller and freezer door seals have been replaced in addition the old leaking pipe work that support the refrigeration system has been replaced to ensure efficiency. It has been determined that cold-rooms' are indeed too large for the throughput of fish current received and must be made smaller.</p> <p>The GM of SHFC has prepared a proposal (and investigating technical advice) for consideration by ESH to procure panelling to reduce the physical size of one of the SHFC cold-rooms by 50% which is anticipated to reduce energy consumption by 30% which will be reviewed by the SHFC improvement plan working group before submission. No further update.</p>	Closed
116	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	St Helena Fisheries Corporation 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	PAC notes with concern, the high freight charges for moving fish for export and encourages SHFC and AWSL to consider negotiating an export rate to encourage sustainable business.	General Manager, SHFC	No formal attempt was made by SHFC to AWSL to consider the negotiating the export rate for containers. Informal enquires would suggest that this is not an option. This recommendation will be presented to the SHFC improvement plan working group and formally explored as an option by February 2018.	Open
121	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Bulk Fuel Installation 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	SHG ensures that government trading activities are monitored through monthly management accounts and corrective action is taken timeously where operating deficits are arising.	Financial Secretary	Implemented. Performance is monitored through monthly management accounts and corrective action reviewed and taken.	Closed

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122	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Bulk Fuel Installation 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	SHG quantifies the decommissioning costs of the old BFI and clarifies from where these costs are to be funded.	Financial Secretary	Discussions are ongoing to conclude this issue. Update March 2018: No further update.	Open
123	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Bulk Fuel Installation 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	SHG provides a written statement on the additional costs incurred through the emergency fuel shipment charter and explains how this additional cost will be funded.	Financial Secretary	Options for the recovery of the increased cost per litre of fuel from the emergency fuel shipment included consideration of the wider social and economic implications. The costs will be recovered through sales over several future shipments of fuel by adjusting the contribution to BFI and the retailer's margin.	Open
124	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Bulk Fuel Installation 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	SHG takes steps to ensure that bulk fuel reserves are planned and replenished at intervals sufficient to avoid the additional costs involved in emergency shipments of fuel.	Financial Secretary	These steps are being taken by the management of the Bulk Fuel Installation bearing in mind the cost of holding excessive stocks. The emergency shipment in March 2017 was not the result of delayed planning; external factors, specifically weather conditions indicated that there would be a substantial delay in the delivery of the planned shipment of fuel.	Closed
125	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Currency 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	SHG continuously manages its ex-officio roles and responsibilities of Currency Commissioners so as to recognise the inherent conflict of interest in these appointments and ensure fair play between the stewardship of the Currency Fund and the operations of the SHG treasury functions.	Financial Secretary	Agreed. This will be done.	Open
126	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Currency 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	PAC formally notes a review on the St Helena Pound versus Sterling is being performed and anticipates proper consideration of that report after all due processes have been followed. (PAC recommendation in SP 35/16 refers)	Financial Secretary	The report by the Government Economist on the St Helena Pound has been considered.	Open

ST HELENA GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROGRESS REGISTER AS AT 19 JULY 2018

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127	01/05/2017(SP 30/17)	Saint Helena Hotel Development Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	<p>PAC notes that South African Building Standards are being used in the building of the Jamestown Hotel and that the work being performed based on those standards will be self-assured. SHG should advise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Whether the South African Building Standards are compliant with the St Helena Building Regulations and what risks are presented by allowing South African standards to be applied and what mitigations have been put in place? 2. Whether proper approval was given by the appropriate Authority for the disapplication of St Helena building regulations in the construction of the Hotel? 3. What oversight is being provided by the Building Inspector as to the compliance with building regulations, and otherwise, whether the services of a South African certified Building Inspector should be engaged to independently validate the self-assurance performed by the contractor? 	Directors, SHHD	<p>1. Current St Helena Building Standards are inferior to South African National Standards (SANS 10400). A review of the St Helena Building Regulations is currently being undertaken using a combination of UK and SANS Regs. The use of SANS 10400 was therefore considered minimal Risk. A final Occupancy Certificate encapsulating the regulatory requirements of SANS and St Helena was implemented by Planning and Building Control, supported by SHG's Technical Services Dept, requiring detailed documentation and certification supporting the Design and Build quality of the Hotel.</p> <p>2. Approvals were sought and implemented by the appropriate sections of SHG i.e. Planning and Building Control and all approvals went through the appropriate Planning Authority Committee's</p> <p>3. Initial design deliberations were held including the Building Inspectorate. No onsite inspections were undertaken but regular progress reports and photos were provided as work progressed. SHHD's Technical Director undertook regular inspections and site visits to ensure compliance with specification and quality assurance.</p> <p>Update: The occupancy certificate has been issued and the hotel has been operational since November 2017.</p>	Closed
128	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Saint Helena Hotel Development Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	The Chief Planning Officer and Building Inspector specify definitely the standards that are applicable to building construction in St Helena and the Building Regulations to be updated and approved accordingly.	Chief Planning Officer	<p>Current St Helena Building Standards are inferior to South African National Standards (SANS 10400). A review of the St Helena Building Regulations is currently being undertaken using a combination of UK and SANS Regs.</p> <p>The Chief Planning Officer and Building Inspector make recommendations to the Planning Authority and Council Members on matters pertaining to the Planning and Building Regulations and where necessary these go to Public Consultation, such as the current review of the Building Regulations, prior to implementation.</p>	

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129	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Saint Helena Hotel Development Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	SHHDL provides a written statement indicating when the Land Development Control Authority, Chief Planning Officer and Building Inspector were involved, what amendments to plans have been made, inspections undertaken to date and any approvals provided.	Directors, SHHDL	<p>This is partially covered under the response in 127 above.</p> <p>SHHD Ltd received conditional development permission in respect of 123 Main Street Hotel project in August 2015 (Decision notice 2015/48). All planning conditions were discharged between May and December 2016.</p> <p>FDT Architects Penny Murray, Tim Drubber and Andries Strauss were approved by Paul Brough (CE) as competent persons in relation to Duties 1 – 18 of SANS 10400- A:2010. In November 2016.</p> <p>Request for various dispensations from SANS made to Planning/Building Authorities in June 2016.</p>	Closed
130	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Saint Helena Hotel Development Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	SHG to evaluate the range of skills on the SHHDL Board specifically in terms of engineering and legal expertise so as to mitigate any risks coming from the project and reconsider explicitly the question of conflict of interest of the present directors of SHHDL.	Chief Secretary	<p>July 2018 Update: A full review of the board structure has been completed. Two additional Board members have been appointed that will bring additional skills and expertise to the Board.</p>	Closed
131	01/05/2017 (SP 30/17)	Saint Helena Hotel Development Ltd 2015/16 Audited Annual Financial Statements	SHHDL clarify the terms of any contractual relationship between the company and Mantis Collection for the running of the completed hotel and explain the impact on the exit strategy.	Directors, SHHDL	<p>Mantis Collection is contracted under a Hotel Management Agreement (HMA) to operate the Hotel for a period of 10 years. During this period, SHHD Ltd, will devise an exit strategy to present to Executive Council for endorsement. The contractual arrangement with Mantis Collection will not impact on the exit strategy.</p>	Closed