

12.64 The development of a strong, well organized internal audit function, staffed by competent well-motivated individuals and carrying out a comprehensive audit under good leadership and the overall direction of a properly constituted audit committee is of major importance. It is one of the best ways to ensure that the human, physical and financial resources entrusted to Government by Parliament, and to managers by Government, are being managed with due regard to economy, efficiency and effectiveness. It is also important for ensuring that, through good co-ordination and appropriate reliance upon the internal audit function, the work of our Office is carried out economically, efficiently and effectively. Unfortunately, the findings of our current review preclude us from relying on many internal audit groups at this time. Accordingly, in my future Reports to Parliament, this vital aspect of an effective financial management and control system will be given the closest attention.