

CHAPTER 8 - INSPECTIONS AND AUDITS

0801. **Introduction.** This chapter outlines the process of reviews, inspections and audits that are to be undertaken as regards the governance of CRL service.

0802. **Financial Management and Corporate Governance.** There is a standing requirement that the Crown, and therefore the MOD, always ensure VFM in both public and commercial dealings. All Government Departments are subject to Government Accounting guidance issued by HM Treasury. Within the MOD there are a number of relevant documents: JSP 462 (Financial Management Policy Manual) and JSP 525 (Corporate Governance and Risk Management). CRL is included in contracts with commercial partners and these involve expenditure by the MOD and, to a lesser extent, by individual Service personnel. There is a standing requirement that the principles of regularity, propriety and VFM are observed. In terms of expenditure of public monies this is a formal requirement and corporate responsibility; in the case of expenditure by individual Service personnel, the MOD has a vicarious responsibility. Reviews, inspections and audits of CRL contracted units/establishments must ensure that these requirements are being met and the principles observed in order to ensure that both the MOD and individual Service personnel are receiving VFM.

0803. **Food Safety.** All units are to comply fully with the legal requirements of Food Law and Food Safety as articulated in JSP 456 Vol 3. It should be noted that DFS Regulations are based upon current and emerging legislation from HM Government's Food Standards Agency and the Department of Health. Authority staff should be aware of the location of these regulations as, by necessity, the JSP 456 and other publications will evolve upon these regulations. Where commercial partners utilise their own Food Safety policies and procedures, the Authority is to ensure these equate to or are higher than those directed by JSP 456 Vol 3.

0804. **Joint Business Agreement (JBA).** In accordance with extant JBA between DFS and TLBs a regime is in place for the conduct and scope of routine formal inspections of Units to ensure public funds are spent in accordance with the regulations and provide accounting information detail as requested by DFS Team.

0805. **Role of TLBs.** The scope, grading and report format of a unit's inspection are the preserve of the Chain of Command (CoC). However the overarching objectives of an inspection are to validate to the chain of CoC the Unit's catering support arrangements and the Contractor's compliance. The principal objectives of the inspection are therefore to:

- a. Ensure compliance with legislation, regulations and the contract.
- b. Management of Crown Accounts.
- c. Identify changes necessary to reflect developments in role, establishment or working practice.
- d. Provide the foundation for effective risk analysis-based inspection programmes.

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