



News Release

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DIRECTOR RESPONDS TO CJINI'S REPORT ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE IN THE PPS

The Director of Public Prosecutions, Barra McGrory QC welcomes the report from Criminal Justice Inspection. It is both timely and complements his strategic focus for the PPS.

"I am pleased by the overall assessment of the Inspectors that 'the governance structures and associated processes within the PPS provide a sound governance framework to introduce further improvements'.

"I am delighted that the 'very high quality of legal decision-making' and the 'professionalism and commitment' of PPS staff has been formally recognised.

"The report marks a milestone for the PPS as it completes its implementation stage. Established in 2005, the focus has rightly been on developing a regionalised service across Northern Ireland, recruiting and training close to 600 staff, designing new systems and providing enhanced services to victims and witnesses of crime.

"This report is timely and will greatly assist me and the senior management team to focus on the next phase and I am grateful to Mr McGuigan for his carefully considered recommendations.

“This is a detailed report and work is already well advanced in addressing its findings. A particular issue which the PPS is keen to address is that of performance management. A number of steps have already been taken including a major senior management review and the extension of the role of the Deputy Director to include taking the lead in performance management. I have also invested considerable time consulting the heads of prosecuting authorities in neighbouring jurisdictions and following these consultations have now introduced a programme of training designed to meet the needs of the PPS.

“I am confident that the PPS can rise to the challenges highlighted in this report and I look forward to leading the organisation through this next phase in its development,” he added.

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