
February 2017

Performance Audit
Recommendations and
Corrective Actions for Audit:
15-9

VERMONT HEALTH
CONNECT

Status of Planned Enhancements

Dated: November 18, 2015

Overview

The SAO makes recommendations designed to improve the operations of state government. For our work to produce benefits, auditees or the General Assembly must implement these recommendations, although we cannot require them to do so. Nevertheless, a measure of the quality and persuasiveness of our performance audits is the extent to which these recommendations are accepted and acted upon. The greater the number of recommendations that are implemented, the more benefit will be derived from our audit work.

In 2010, the SAO began to follow-up on the recommendations issued in our performance audits. Experience has shown that it takes time for some recommendations to be implemented. For this reason, we perform our follow-up activities one and three years after the calendar year in which the audit report is issued. Our annual performance reports summarize whether we are meeting our recommendation implementation targets.

<http://auditor.vermont.gov/about-us/strategic-plans-and-performance-reports>

This report addresses the requirements of Act 155 (2012) to post the results of our recommendation follow-up work on our website. The report does not include follow-up on recommendations issued as part of the state's financial statement audit and the federally mandated Single Audit, which are performed by a contractor. However, our current contract for this work requires the contractor to provide the results of its recommendation follow-up.

| Audit Number & | Rec # | Recommendation | Follow-Up Date | Status | Review Comments |
|---|--|--|----------------|-------------|--|
| 15-9 Vermont Health Connect: Status of Planned Enhancements | 1 | Immediately negotiate and sign contracts or contract amendments with Optum, Exeter Group, and Archetype for the work currently being performed without benefit of such documents. | 2016 | Implemented | In 2016, the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) signed contracts with Optum and Archetype for the work that had been performed without the benefit of such documents in 2015. DVHA reported that Exeter Group went out of business before services were performed. The SAO validated this statement. |
| | No further follow-up is required because the recommendation was implemented. | | | | |
| | 2 | Immediately stop the use of Authorization to Proceed (ATP)s until such time as the Secretary of Administration has approved their use either through an approved contracting plan or waiver as called for in Bulletin 3.5. | 2016 | Implemented | DVHA reported that the last Authorization to Proceed letter was issued in November 2015. In addition, the October 2016 Agency of Human Services' (the parent agency of DVHA) contracting waiver plan does not include the use of such documents. |
| | No further follow-up is required because the recommendation was implemented. | | | | |