

APPOINTMENT LAID BEFORE THE STATES OF DELIBERATION

Committee for Economic Development

APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OFFICE OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES OMBUDSMAN

In pursuance of paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 1 to the Financial Services Ombudsman (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2014, the appointment by the Committee *for* Economic Development of Mr David Thomas as Chairman of the Office of the Financial Services Ombudsman with effect from 31 January 2018 is laid before the States. The States of Deliberation have the power to annul the appointment.

The Office of the Financial Services Ombudsman was established by section 1 of the Financial Services Ombudsman (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2014. After due consideration and in conjunction with the States of Jersey, the Committee *for* Economic Development concluded that Mr David Thomas is suitable to continue to be Chairman of the Board of the Office of the Financial Services Ombudsman and has reappointed Mr David Thomas for a further 4 years with effect from 31 January 2018. Mr David Thomas has held this position from 31 January 2015.

A summary of the curriculum vitae of Mr David Thomas is attached for information:

Mr David Thomas

Mr Thomas qualified as a lawyer in England and Wales (1969) and Ireland (1991).

Mr Thomas was:

- managing partner of a firm of lawyers with offices in Liverpool and London;
- a Council member of The Law Society (regulator for solicitors in England & Wales);
- a Committee member of the City of London Law Society;
- President of Liverpool Law Society;
- the UK Banking Ombudsman;
- a member of the small steering group that designed the unified statutory UK Financial Ombudsman Service, which acquired its legal powers in 2001; and
- on establishment of the UK Financial Ombudsman Service, Mr Thomas became Principal Ombudsman and subsequently Chief Ombudsman and part-time strategy adviser (on retirement).

Mr Thomas is currently:

- Chairman of the Board of the Office of the Financial Services Ombudsman (Guernsey) which operates jointly with the Office of the Financial Services Ombudsman (Jersey) of which he is also Chairman;
- a senior consultant on financial consumer protection for the World Bank; and

- a member of the Regulatory Board of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

He was formerly:

- a non-executive director of the statutory Legal Ombudsman (covering all lawyers and claims management companies in England and Wales) which he helped to design;
- a member of the steering committees of the worldwide International Network of Financial Services Ombudsmen and FIN-NET (the European Union network of financial ombudsmen); and
- a member of the Audit Advisory Committee, and then Independent Service Delivery Reviewer, of the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman.