

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

COMMITTEE *FOR* HOME AFFAIRS

INDEPENDENT MONITORING PANEL:
RE-APPOINTMENTS AND NOTIFICATION OF RESIGNATIONS

The States are asked to decide: -

Whether, after consideration of the Policy Letter dated 24th May, 2019, of the Committee *for* Home Affairs, they are of the opinion:

1. to confirm the re-appointment of Mr Tony Talmage as a member, and his appointment as Chairman, of the Independent Monitoring Panel for a period of four years with effect from 28th January 2019.
2. to confirm the re-appointment of Mrs Wendy Meade as a member of the Independent Monitoring Panel for a period of four years with effect from 28th January 2019.
3. to confirm the re-appointment of Mr Peter Champion as a member of the Independent Monitoring Panel for a period of four years with effect from 28th January 2019.
4. to confirm the re-appointment of Ms Glen Ford as a member of the Independent Monitoring Panel for a period of four years with effect from 28th January 2019.
6. to confirm the re-appointment of Mrs Heather Mauger as a member of the Independent Monitoring Panel for a period of four years with effect from 28th January 2019.
7. to note the resignation of Mrs Celia Allen from the Independent Monitoring Panel with effect from 28th February 2019.
8. to note the resignation of Mr James Edward Duncan from the Independent Monitoring Panel with effect from 8th August 2019.

The above Propositions have been submitted to Her Majesty's Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications in accordance with Rule 4(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees.

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The Presiding Officer
States of Guernsey
Royal Court House
St Peter Port

24th May 2019

Dear Sir

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this Policy Letter is to request the States to confirm the reappointment of members of the Independent Monitoring Panel ("the Panel") following the end of their current terms of office, and to confirm the appointment of Mr Anthony (Tony) Talmage as Chairman of the Panel for the next four years.
- 1.2 The Committee *for* Home Affairs ("the Committee") also wishes to notify the States of the resignation of Panel members, Mrs Celia Allen, who was appointed in February 2018 and Mr James Edward Duncan, who was appointed in September 2015.

2. Background

- 2.1. The Panel is an independent body made up of members of the public who make unannounced visits to Guernsey Prison. Members provide independent oversight of the day-to-day operations of the Prison and prison conditions, monitor the administration of the prison, the treatment of prisoners and whether the statutory objectives of the prison system are being met, and serve to protect the well-being of prisoners.
- 2.2. The Committee *for* Home Affairs ("the Committee") would like to take this opportunity to put on record its thanks and appreciation to all existing Panel members for their hard work, dedication and commitment to their roles.

3. Constitution

- 3.1. The Panel is constituted under section 17(1) of the Prison (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2013 ("the Ordinance"), which states that *"The Committee must appoint the Chairman and other members of a panel to be known as the Independent Monitoring Panel, subject to confirmation by the States in accordance with Schedule 3"*.

4. Re-appointment of members

- 4.1. The Ordinance requires the Committee to present any reappointments to the Panel to the States in the calendar year in which they are made.
- 4.2. Paragraph 1(4) of Schedule 3 to the Ordinance states that Panel members may be appointed for a period of four years or less, as the Committee may determine in each case.
- 4.3. Paragraph 1(5) of Schedule 3 to the Ordinance states that *"A Panel member may be reappointed"*.
- 4.4. Paragraph 2(3) of Schedule 3 to the Ordinance, states that following the resignation of a member, the Committee must *"notify the States of the resignation... at the first available opportunity"*.
- 4.5. Paragraph 1(7) of Schedule 3 to the Ordinance provides that, *"If any appointment made by the Committee to the Panel is not confirmed by the States before the end of the calendar year in which the appointment is made, that appointment lapses at the end of that calendar year."*

5. Appointment of Chairman

- 5.1. It is noted that, following the resignation of the former Chairman, Mrs Wendy Meade in 2018, the Panel, with the consent of the Committee, appointed Mr Talmage to act as Chairman for the remainder of his term of office as a Panel member with effect from 14th June 2018 and notified the States of his appointment as Chairman in December 2018 in accordance with paragraph 2(4)(c) of Schedule 3 to the Ordinance.¹
- 5.2. The Committee therefore requests that the States confirm the appointment of Mr Talmage as the Chairman of the Panel for the new term of four years in accordance with section 17 of the Ordinance and paragraph 1(7) of Schedule 3 to the Ordinance.

¹ Billet d'État XXVII of 2018, Article II

6. Ordinary members – 4 year re-appointment

- 6.1 The Committee is pleased to recommend that the States confirm the following individuals be re-appointed to the Panel for the maximum period of four years.
- 6.1. Mr Anthony (Tony) Talmage has been a Panel member since January 2015. Mr Talmage has demonstrated excellent listening and negotiating skills, is able to present information without bias and is capable of handling difficult situations in a considered and balanced way. Mr Talmage was recently selected by the Panel to take over as Chairman following the resignation of Mrs Wendy Meade. Mr Talmage continues to have the support of the Panel to continue in this role.
- 6.2. Mrs Wendy Meade has been a Panel member since 2007. Mrs Meade has made a significant and valuable contribution to the Panel throughout her tenure. She has dedicated herself to the role demonstrating common sense, sound judgement and fair mindedness. Mrs Meade was appointed as Chairman of the Panel in 2015 and worked hard to develop relationships, improving communications between Prison Staff and Panel members. She stood down as Chairman in 2018 for personal reasons and the Committee was pleased that Mrs Meade expressed a wish to continue her work on the Panel, as an ordinary member, as she has significant and valuable experiences to share.
- 6.3. Mr Peter Champion has been a Panel Member since January 2015. Mr Champion, is also a Member of the Independent Custody Visitors who conduct unannounced visits to Bailiwick Law Enforcement detention facilities. Mr Champion has an incisive mind and his analytical approach to issues makes a positive contribution to the work of the Panel. He has a strong sense of natural justice and has a talent for empathising with the less fortunate in society. Mr Champion is currently on a short-term sabbatical, supported by the Panel, for personal circumstances and hopes to return to the role in April 2019.
- 6.4. Ms Glen Ford has been a Panel member since August 2015. Ms Ford has recently retired from a full time position in the finance sector where she has experience in working with sensitive information and the importance of maintaining confidentiality. Ms Ford demonstrates excellent listening and communication skills and is confident in dealing with people from all backgrounds. Ms Ford feels strongly that everybody has a right to be heard and is equally aware of the need for Panel members to be impartial and act without judgement. She combines a forensic curiosity with genuine compassion when dealing with issues affecting both prisoners and prison officers. Ms Ford has been supporting Mr Talmage acting as a Deputy Chairman.
- 6.5. Mrs Heather Mauger has been a Panel member since August 2015. Mrs Mauger, now retired, has a varied working background. Most recently she was employed

within the finance sector where she gained experience working in accordance with statutory guidelines. Mrs Mauger has a keen interest in community matters and has been involved in a variety of voluntary roles. She has demonstrated effective communication skills and is comfortable interacting and dealing with prisoners of all ages and abilities.

7 Compliance with Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees

- 7.1 Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees sets out the information which must be included in, or appended to, motions laid before the States.
- 7.2 In accordance with Rule 4(4) of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees, it is confirmed that the propositions above have the unanimous support of the Committee.
- 7.3 In accordance with Rule 4(5), the Propositions relate to the duties of the Committee to advise the States and to develop and implement policies on matters relating to its purpose including imprisonment, parole, probation and rehabilitation.

Yours faithfully

M M Lowe
President

R G Prow
Vice-President

R H Graham
M P Leadbeater
V S Oliver