

# STATES OF JERSEY



## STATES OF JERSEY COMPLAINTS PANEL: RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

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Lodged au Greffe on 9th July 2015  
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee

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STATES GREFFE

## **PROPOSITION**

**THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –**

in accordance with Article 5(2) of the Administrative Decisions (Review) (Jersey) Law 1982, to re-appoint the following persons as members of the States of Jersey Complaints Panel, from whom members of Complaints Boards can be drawn, for a further period of 4 years –

### **Members**

Mr. Christopher Beirne  
Mr. Robert Frederick Bonney  
Mr. Graeme George Marett  
Mr. Patrick David McGrath.

**PRIVILEGES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE**

## **REPORT**

### **The Complaints Panel system**

The Complaints Panel is established under the Administrative Decisions (Review) (Jersey) Law 1982, and it enables any person who is aggrieved by a decision made by a Minister or department, or any person acting on behalf of any such Minister or department, to apply to the Greffier of the States to have the matter reviewed by a Complaints Board. Once a complaint is received, the Greffier seeks the response of the Minister or department concerned before referring the papers to the Chairman of the Complaints Panel, who decides whether or not the circumstances justify review by a Complaints Board. If the Chairman is conflicted, then the matter is referred for adjudication by one of the Deputy Chairmen. If the Chairman or Deputy Chairman considers that the circumstances justify a Board, before holding a hearing, they may first attempt informal resolution of the complaint, but if this is not appropriate or has failed, the matter is then referred to a Board and a hearing date is normally set for 6 weeks later. A Board of 3 members selected from the Complaints Panel is established to deal with the case. If the Board finds in favour of the complainant it can request the Minister or department concerned to reconsider the decision. Article 5(2) of the Law requires the States to appoint the members of the Complaints Panel.

Although 4 members of the current Panel of 14 are stepping down at the end of their term of office, the Committee is pleased that 4 members are willing to serve for a further term. (The terms of office of the remaining 6 members run until 2016 and 2019.) Whilst the Committee considers that it is important to appoint new members, it is also vital to maintain some continuity and experience and, with the agreement of the Appointments Commission, the Committee is pleased to be able to nominate them for re-appointment.

The Committee is extremely grateful to the members who give many hours of their time on a totally honorary basis in relation to the work of the Panel, and very pleased that they have offered to serve for a further 4 years. Brief biographical details of each nominee are set out in the attached **Appendix**.

The Committee would like to pay particular tribute to Nigel Le Gresley, who is retiring from the Panel after 12 years' service (as Deputy Chairman and most recently as Chairman), Frank Dearie and Stephen Platt who have both served for 6 years, and also to John Mills, C.B.E., who has been a member of the Panel since 2012. The Committee recognises that they are extremely busy people in their own right, and have generously given their time freely to serve the community, for which the Committee is very grateful.

### **Financial and manpower implications**

All members of the Complaints Panel serve in an honorary capacity, and there are no financial or manpower implications arising from this proposition.

## APPENDIX

### **Mr. Christopher Beirne**

Mr. Beirne is currently the Headmaster and Chief Executive of Beaulieu Convent School, a position he has held since September 2006. Mr. Beirne was educated at St. Mel's College, Longford, Ireland, the Gregorian University in Rome, the Institute of Education at the University of Hull and Oxford University Department for Educational Studies. He worked for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Northampton between 1985 and 1993 before becoming Head of Religious Studies at Eggar's School Alton, Hampshire between 1994 and 1996, during which period he was also a part-time lecturer at Portsmouth Sixth Form College. He came to Jersey in 1996 and worked at Victoria College as Head of Religious Studies and then Director of Spiritual and Moral Development before being appointed as Vice-Principal of the Jersey College for Girls in September 1999, a position he held until he was appointed to his current post. Mr. Beirne is a member of the Management Board of the Jersey Teachers' Superannuation Fund and Director of the Channel Islands Operations for Rainbows (Bereavement Support for young people). He is the holder of a private pilot's licence and a member of the Jersey Aero Club, and he has been a member of the Complaints Panel since 2009.

### **Mr. Robert (Bob) Bonney**

Mr. Bonney was born in Jersey and was a member of the States of Jersey Police Force for some 28 years, retiring in 2005. During his Police career, Mr. Bonney served in all areas of the Police Force, including a significant period in a management role in States and Honorary Police training. The majority of his service was, however, performed in various criminal investigative roles, during the course of which he led a number of the Island's murder inquiries. He led the Drugs Squad at the rank of Detective Inspector for 3 years before being appointed as the Head of the Criminal Investigation Department, a position he held for 5 years before his retirement. Since his retirement he has been involved with his wife in developing his family property, and he has been a member of the Complaints Panel since 2009.

### **Mr. Graeme George Marett**

Mr. Marett attended De La Salle College and Highlands College, graduating in 1971 with a City and Guilds of London Institute Technological Certificate in Telecommunications. He subsequently gained a number of qualifications through the Open University (Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Master of Engineering) as well as a Post-Graduate Certificate in Competition Law and Economics from Nottingham University. He worked in the telecommunications industry before running his own computer brokerage business and working as a computer consultant for a number of local businesses including Jersey Post and the Education Department. From 2002 to 2011 he was employed by the JCRA as the case officer for telecommunications, and was involved in the introduction of competition to the mobile telephone market. Following his retirement, Mr. Marett continues to operate as a computer consultant. He has been a member of the Board since 2012.

**Mr. Patrick David McGrath**

Mr. McGrath served with the States of Jersey Police Force for 27 years, and he holds a Master of Arts degree in Police and Criminal Justice studies. He retired from the Force in the rank of Chief Inspector in September 2002, and during his policing career saw service in many departments, predominantly in an investigative role; he also served with the Police Complaints and Discipline Department, receiving a commendation from H.M. Attorney General for the quality of his investigation in one particular instance. Following retirement, he secured management positions within the finance industry in areas of compliance and anti-money laundering. He currently works on a part-time basis at Mont à l'Abbé School, transporting children to and from school on a daily basis. He has been a member of the Board since 2012.