

STATES OF JERSEY



SOCIAL SECURITY TRIBUNAL: APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

Lodged au Greffe on 27th January 2011
by the Minister for Social Security

STATES GREFFE

PROPOSITION

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

in pursuance of Article 33A of the Social Security (Jersey) Law 1974, further to a process overseen by the Jersey Appointments Commission, to appoint the following persons as Panel members of the Social Security Tribunal for a period of 5 years with effect from 1st March 2011 –

Mr. Alan Hall
Mrs. Margaret Howard
Mr. Samuel Le Breton
Mr. John Moulin.

MINISTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

REPORT

Background

A number of positions had become vacant on 3 Tribunals that are the responsibility of the Minister for Social Security – the Income Support Medical Appeal Tribunal, the Social Security Tribunal and the Employment Tribunal.

The legislation setting up each of these Tribunals requires that members are appointed by the States on the recommendation of the Minister for Social Security, following consultation with the Appointments Commission.

Following a period of open recruitment and structured interviews, in which the Appointments Commission representative chaired the Interview Panel, the Minister for Social Security is satisfied that the individuals proposed for the respective positions have the required knowledge or experience.

It is proposed that each of the members is offered an initial term of 5 years, to begin from the date of States approval.

Further details of the proposed new members are provided at the Appendix.

Social Security Tribunal

The Social Security (Determination of Claims and Questions) (Jersey) Order 1974 provides for the constitution of the Social Security Tribunal, which has been in place since 1974, and hears appeals on a range of benefits under the Social Security Law as well as appeals for Income Support.

A Tribunal Panel consists of a legally qualified Chair and 2 lay members drawn from a panel of 12 people. Recent recruitment has taken place to increase the number of Panel members to ensure that there are enough people with varying experience available for hearings.

While a term of office is not specified in legislation, to maintain consistency with other Tribunals and recommended best practice, members have been offered an initial term of 5 years. Members are then eligible to apply for re-appointment for a further period.

Financial and manpower implications

There are no financial or manpower implications for the States arising from this proposition.

APPENDIX

John Moulin was Chief Ambulance Officer for 17 years. He retired in 2009 after a total of 29 years' service, which began as an ambulance technician and has included co-ordination with other services and organisations.

Mr. Moulin was President of the Jersey Civil Service Association, a voluntary post, for 6 years. During that time he dealt with individuals experiencing health and/or work-related difficulties.

Samuel Le Breton was Head of the Police Support Unit when he retired from the Police service in 1997, with responsibility for contingency planning, public relations and police complaints and discipline.

After retirement from the Police Force, Mr. Le Breton took on the role of a Director of the Jersey Mutual Insurance Society and is currently the Society's President.

Mr. Le Breton has been a member of the Employment Tribunal since 2005.

Margaret Howard has 28 years' experience in Jersey's Finance Industry, including trust administration. Her current position at the Bedell Group involves review of processes and risk reporting. Mrs. Howard has recently completed an MSc in Corporate Governance, specialising in the non-profit (charitable) sector.

Mrs. Howard has been a carer for family members and for the past 8 years has been a volunteer at Jersey Hospice Care.

Alan Hall was Head of Internal Audit at the Jersey Electricity Company (JEC) when he retired in 2007. His career at the JEC began in 1967 as an Accounts Clerk. During this time, Mr. Hall also took on voluntary roles as a Committee member for the JEC Pensioners' Association and a Trustee for the JEC Pension Fund.

Mr. Hall has been a member of the Employment Tribunal since 2005.