

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

COMMITTEE *FOR* HOME AFFAIRS

INDEPENDENT MONITORING PANEL:
APPOINTMENT OF NEW MEMBER

The States are asked to decide: -

Whether, after consideration of the Policy Letter dated 16th May 2022, of the Committee *for* Home Affairs, they are of the opinion:

1. To confirm the appointment of Lucy Cave as a member of the Independent Monitoring Panel for a period of four years with effect from 16th May 2022.

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

16th May 2022

Dear Sir

1. Executive Summary

1.1. The purpose of this Policy Letter is to obtain confirmation from the States of the appointment by the Committee *for* Home Affairs (“The Committee”) of a new member to the Independent Monitoring Panel (“the Panel”).

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 would like to take this opportunity to put on record its thanks and appreciation to all existing Panel Members for their commitment and dedication to their roles.

2.3. Panel members are appointed following open and transparent recruitment campaigns which take place at regular intervals depending on current membership numbers, the last recruitment drive taking place in 2020. Members of the public interested in joining the Panel can also declare an interest in the role at any time. Those registering an interest in becoming a Panel member are invited

to set out their reasons for doing so and identify any relevant skills or experience they feel will make a positive contribution to the role.

- 2.4. No formal qualifications are required for membership to the Panel, but the Panel looks for individuals who are fair, objective and non-judgemental. It is expected that members will have experience of working with confidential material and dealing with a wide variety of people from different backgrounds.
- 2.5. Under section 17 of the Prison (Guernsey) Ordinance, 2013¹ ("The Ordinance"), Panel Members must be appointed by the Committee, subject to confirmation by the States. Appointment is for a period of four years or less. When making appointments, pursuant to paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 3 to the Ordinance, the Committee must have particular regard to the need to "ensure that Panel members have a strong commitment to human rights, have a strong sense of integrity, are able to maintain confidentiality, and have effective communication and listening skills."

3. Appointment of New Member to the Panel - Ordinary member – 4-year appointment

- 3.1. Ms Lucy Cave independently contacted the Panel's Secretary to enquire about applying to become a member of the Independent Monitoring Panel.
- 3.2. Ms Cave has a wealth of experience in volunteer roles having previously volunteered for Meals on Wheels and for the Leo Club in Guernsey. Ms Cave completed a degree in Psychology at Exeter University and whilst at University Ms Cave volunteered for 'Nightline' a confidential listening service run by student volunteers.
- 3.3. Ms Cave evidenced in interview that she was able to identify the challenges facing the prison locally and demonstrated a strong commitment to supporting the role of the Panel and the vision for the prison. The Panel's Chair recommended the appointment of Ms Cave to the Committee.
- 3.4. The Committee appointed Ms Cave at its meeting of 16th May 2022.

4. Compliance with Rule 4

- 4.1. 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.
- 4.2. In accordance with Rule 4(1):

¹ [Prison \(Guernsey\) Ordinance, 2013](#)

- a) The propositions contribute to the States' objectives in that the appointment of a new Members to the Panel will ensure the Panel can appropriately discharge its statutory duties.
- b) In preparing the propositions, there has been no consultation with stakeholders.
- c) The propositions have been submitted to Her Majesty's Procureur for advice on any legal or constitutional implications.
- d) There are no financial implications to the States of carrying the proposal into effect.

4.3. In accordance with Rule 4(2):

- a) 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.
- b) The propositions have the unanimous support of the Committee.

Yours faithfully

R G Prow
President

S P J Vermeulen
Vice-President

S E Aldwell
L McKenna
A W Taylor

P A Harwood OBE
Non-States Member