
STATES OF JERSEY



JERSEY ELECTORAL AUTHORITY – APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND MEMBERS.

Presented to the States on 17th January 2022
by the Privileges and Procedures Committee

STATES GREFFE

REPORT

New Article 13A of the Elections (Jersey) Law 2002 provides for the establishment of the Jersey Electoral Authority (JEA) to oversee public elections in Jersey. In accordance with the provisions of the Law, the Privileges and Procedures Committee appoints the Chair and members of the JEA and must give 15 days' notice of its intention to appoint to those roles.

Following a successful recruitment process overseen by the Appointments Commission, Mr. John Everett, Mr Alex Hodnett and Mrs. Eleanor Staples have been identified as ideal candidates to serve as the Chair and members of the JEA.

The positions were advertised in November 2021, over 20 people made contact seeking information about the role and a total of 11 candidates applied. Interviews were held over two days on 10th and 11th January 2022. The interview panel, which consisted of Kate Wright, Appointments Commission, Adam Clarke, Judicial Greffier, Lisa Hart, Deputy Greffier and Jane Sappé, Parish Secretary, Trinity were unanimous in their endorsement of Mr. Everett as Chair and Mr. Hodnett and Mrs. Sharples as members of the Island's first ever JEA.

The postholders, who will be serving for a 4-year term on an honorary basis, will join the Judicial Greffier, States Greffier and a representative of the Parish Secretaries to provide oversight of the public elections process in Jersey.

Whilst the Law allows for there to be a Chair and up to 4 members of the JEA in addition to the ex-officio members and Parish representative, not all of the positions could be filled at this juncture and it is anticipated that a further recruitment process will follow later in the year, once the new Authority has had a chance to establish.

John Everett (Chair)

John has worked for Equiom Group as Group Chief Risk Officer since 2020 involved in the design and roll-out of risk identification, analysis, mitigation and reporting as well as Compliance and Governance; for 4 years he was the Deputy Director General of the Jersey Financial Services Commission and he has also worked in the UK for the Financial Services Authority in policy development for a total of 11 years. As a student he was on the Board of Directors of the Electoral Reform Society and has maintained a keen interest in the mechanics of the electoral process and is currently studying for a B.Sc. in Mathematics and Statistics with the Open University. John has a wealth of experience in reviewing legislation, project planning and has strong analytical skills.

Alex Hodnett

Alex has a BSc in Economics from the University of Bath and is now working towards a Master of research (MRes) in the same subject. He is currently employed as an Economist at the Competition and Markets Authority, having previously worked at the Department of Transport, Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles, and the JCRA. He was a member of the Jersey Youth Assembly and the precursor to the Jersey Youth Parliament and was involved in the election process for the latter. At university he studied the political economy, which included the turnout paradox and theories on why people vote. This has fed into Alex's academic research on public choice, including

research on voting games. He has experience in mathematical modelling, statistics, and developing and testing theories.

Eleanor Sharples

Ellie has worked in financial services for the last 30 years and for the past 4 years has worked for the Jersey Financial Services Commission (JFSC). She was the Team Lead for the Banking Sector Working Group for the Islands National Risk Assessment for Money Laundering (NRA) and was a member of the Government's overall NRA working group. Her role was to work with the sector team through a prescribed methodology to produce a report which detailed the AML risks the Banking sector posed to the jurisdiction. Ellie is passionate about local politics. She was a member of the Citizens Jury, which considered whether Assisted Dying should be permitted in Jersey. She presently works as a Director at a Trust and Corporate Services company. Ellie possesses strong analytical and communication skills.