
STATES OF JERSEY



JERSEY DATA PROTECTION AUTHORITY – APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Presented to the States on 12th July 2024
by the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development

STATES GREFFE

REPORT

[Data Protection Authority \(Jersey\) Law 2018 \(jerseylaw.je\)](#) enables the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development to appoint the Chair of the Jersey Data Protection Authority (JDPA).

The term of the current Chair, Mr Jacob Kohnstamm is due to conclude on 28 October 2024. This having been previously extended from 24 May 2024 to ensure continuity of leadership during the planning and development of the 2024 Global Privacy Assembly International conference which will be hosted by Jersey Office of the Information Commissioner in Jersey from 29 to 31 October 2024.

A recruitment process for a new Chair of the Authority has been overseen by the Jersey Appointments Commission. The post attracted nine (9) applications, including two (2) from Jersey resident candidates. Three (3) candidates were shortlisted for interview by the selection panel which was made up of the below representatives:

- An JDPA member and Chair of the Governance Sub-Committee
- An JDPA member and data protection expert and academic
- The Head of People and Culture at Jersey Water as the independent panel member
- The Chief Officer, Department for the Economy, on behalf of the Government of Jersey

Following this process, Ms Elizabeth Denham CBE has been selected, and the Minister intends to appoint her to the position of Chair for a 4 year term, to commence on 28 October 2024 until 27 October 2028.

Ms Elizabeth Denham brings significant experience to the Authority, gained over an exceptional career in Data Protection both in the UK and Canada, notably as the Commissioner of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia and later as the UK Information Commissioner. During the latter role she presided over significant changes within the Commission transforming them as a fit-for purpose digital regulator, hiring and leading experts and specialists to ensure the UK ICO kept pace with rapidly changing technology; could promote an innovative regulatory sandbox environment and ensure the UK ICO remained at the heart of discussions on data protection issues both within the UK and across the world. In recognition of this work, Ms Elizabeth Denham was awarded a CBE in the Queen's 2019 Honours list for Protecting the Data of UK Citizens.

Since 1 May 2023, Ms Denham has also served as a voting member of the Jersey Data Protection Authority.

The Minister is therefore notifying the States of his intention appoint Ms Elizabeth Denham as Chair of Jersey Data Protection Authority, for a 4 year term, to commence on 28 October 2024, in accordance with Article 3 of the [Data Protection Authority \(Jersey\) Law 2018 \(jerseylaw.je\)](#)

Financial and staffing implications

There are no additional finance, staffing or other implications.