

**THE STATES OF DELIBERATION**  
**of the**  
**ISLAND OF GUERNSEY**

**COMMITTEE *FOR* HOME AFFAIRS**

APPOINTMENTS TO THE DATA PROTECTION AUTHORITY

The States are asked to decide:-

Whether, after consideration of the Policy Letter entitled 'Appointments to the Data Protection Authority' dated 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025, they are of the opinion:-

1. To appoint on and from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 Ms Sarah Willis as a voting member of the Data Protection Authority until (and including) 31<sup>st</sup> December 2029;
2. To appoint on and from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 Mr Steve Wood as a voting member of the Data Protection Authority until (and including) 31<sup>st</sup> December 2030.

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APPOINTMENTS TO THE DATA PROTECTION AUTHORITY

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

11th November, 2025

Dear Sir

**1      Executive Summary**

- 1.1      The purpose of this Policy Letter is to appoint two new voting members of the Data Protection Authority ("the Authority") as established under the Data Protection (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2017 ("the Law").
- 1.2      There are currently 6 voting members of the Authority, including two - Mr Christopher Docksey and Ms Jane Wonnacott, whose terms of office expire on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 and are retiring from their role in January 2026. The Committee *for* Home Affairs ("the Committee") is seeking the appointment of Ms Sarah Willis and Mr Steve Wood as voting members for a period of four and five years respectively with effect from 1 January 2026 to coincide with the retirement of Mr Docksey and Ms Wonnacott.

**2      Background**

- 2.1      Part XI of the Law establishes the Authority, with Schedule 6 to the Law setting out the constitution of the Authority. Schedule 6 provides that the Chairman and other voting members must be appointed by resolution of the States of Deliberation from individuals nominated by the Committee.
- 2.2      Schedule 6 to the Law states that the Authority comprises a Chairman and no fewer than four and no more than eight other voting members, with the exact number being determined by the Committee, and the Commissioner, as an *ex officio* and non-voting member.

- 2.3 In recommending the individuals to the States, pursuant to paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 6 to the Law, the Committee must have particular regard to the need to “ensure that voting members of the Authority –
- (a) have the qualifications, experience and skills necessary to exercise and perform the functions of a member, in particular relating to the protection of personal data,
  - (b) have a strong sense of integrity, and
  - (c) are able to maintain confidentiality.”
- 2.4 Each voting member is to be appointed for a term of not less than four, and not more than five, years as the Committee thinks fit in a particular case.
- 2.5 A recruitment campaign for the Authority members was designed to reach as many areas of the population as possible and included advertising locally through social media and the States of Guernsey website.
- 2.6 Following an open and transparent recruitment process the Committee was impressed with the quality and experience of all candidates.
- 2.7 The Committee, with the support of the Chairman of the Authority is pleased to recommend the following individuals for appointment to the Authority.

### **3 Appointment of Voting Member to the Authority– 4 year appointment**

- 3.1 Ms Sarah Willis’s current professional role as Guernsey Head of Risk and Compliance for IQ-EQ Guernsey, a global financial services firm, has included a period of acting as an executive director. Ms Willis has practical knowledge of data protection in the context of operational roles, risk and compliance functions and internal audit within private sector companies. She has led the implementation of legislation in several businesses, managed the response to data protection incidents, designed processes and procedures, and overseen ongoing compliance monitoring frameworks. Her wider experience in driving governance, risk and compliance arrangements for financial services and financial crime regulation will be an asset to the DPA.
- 3.2 Mr Steve Wood is a former UK Deputy Information Commissioner (2016-2022), an executive leadership position at the Information Commissioner’s Office. Mr Wood has experience in administering and enforcing data protection legislation. Mr Wood is a self-employed consultant specialising in data protection and has worked with various governments and international regulators, including advising the Egyptian, Bahraini, Saudi Arabian and Ugandan governments on data

protection implementation. His consultancy work over recent years has also provided an insight into how to best support private sector companies with data protection implementation – this work has included the design and execution of data protection audits, data protection impact assessments, trade body guidance, regulatory risk advice and support for regulator investigations.

**4 Compliance with Rule 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the States of Deliberation and their Committees**

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):

- a) the propositions contribute to the States' objectives in that the appointment of Members to the Authority will ensure the Authority can appropriately discharge its statutory duties.
- b) In preparing the propositions, consultation has been undertaken with the Chairman of the Data Protection Authority.
- c) The propositions have been submitted to His 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 data protection.
- b) The propositions have the unanimous support of the Committee.

Yours faithfully

M P Leadbeater  
President

J A B Gollop  
Vice-President

M Malik  
A Snowden  
S P J Vermeulen