

# **Press release: Change of Her Majesty's Ambassador to Paraguay**

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Part of:

Mr Matthew Hedges has been appointed Her Majesty's Ambassador to Paraguay

Mr Matthew Hedges has been appointed Her Majesty's Ambassador to Paraguay in succession to Dr Jeremy Hobbs, who will be transferring to another Diplomatic Service appointment. Mr Hedges will take up his appointment in August 2017.

## **Curriculum Vitae**

Full name Matthew James Hedges

2015 – 2016 Princeton University, Master in Public Policy – International Relations

2012 – 2015 Rangoon, Deputy Head of Mission

2009 – 2012 Tokyo, Head of Political Section

2008 – 2009 Turks & Caicos Islands, Head of Governor's Office

2006 – 2008 House of Commons, International Development Select Committee, Senior Clerk

2005 Basra, Head of Chancery

2005 – 2006 FC0, Team Leader, EU Constitutional Treaty/Future of Europe, EU Directorate

2001 – 2005 Rabat, Second Secretary Political

2000 UK Mission to the UN in New York, Adviser

1999 – 2000 FC0, Desk Officer, NATO Enlargement, Security Policy Department

1999 Joined FC0

## **Further information**

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# **43rd edition of IHGF Delhi Fair Spring 2017 Inaugurated**

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## **News story: Appointment, reappointment and extensions of Parole Board members**

Ministers have approved the appointment, reappointment and extensions of Parole Board members. Appointments are subject to security clearance.

Parole Board members are appointed under Schedule 19 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003. The appointment of Parole Board members are made after an open, transparent recruitment process which complies – save for judicial members – with the Code of Practice of the Commissioner for Public Appointments (CPA). There are currently 214 Parole Board members.

The Parole Board is an independent body that works with its criminal justice partners to protect the public by risk assessing prisoners to decide whether they can be safely released into the community.

The Parole Board was established by the Criminal Justice Act 1967. It is an Executive Non Departmental Public Body sponsored by the MoJ.

### **Appointments**

Ministers have approved the appointment of 104 Parole Board members:

#### **Independent members**

The members below were appointed from 1 December 2016 until 30 November 2019:

- Shazia Ahmed
- Katy Barrow
- Daniel Bunting
- Dr Rob Cawley
- Joanne Chambers
- Michelle Coulson
- Jo Dowling
- Jacki Duff
- Robert Edmondson-Jones
- Hedd Emrys Vine
- Melanie Essex
- Paulene Gandhi
- Victoria Goodfellow
- Christine Lawrie
- Elaine Moloney
- Douglas Paxton
- Alison Pearson
- Wendy Poynton
- Margaret Prythergch
- Elizabeth Rantzen

- Lisa Sanderson
- Karol Sanderson
- Victoria Scott
- Helena Suffield-Thompson
- Bill Warren
- Sarah Wells
- Jeremy Weston
- Cassie Williams

The following were appointed from 1 July 2017 and until 30 June 2021.

- Sarfraz Ahmad
- Sally Allbeury
- Nicola Auguste
- Joanna Cain
- Rachel Cook
- Amy Coyte
- Angharad Davies
- Emma Davy
- Stefan Fafinski
- Paul French
- Chris Fry
- Philip Hindson
- Gill Hirst
- Lisa Lamb
- Timothy Lawrence
- Siobhan McBride
- Fran McGrath
- Lynn O'Malley
- Helen Potts
- Jayne Salt
- Alex Simmonds
- Alice Sims
- Rebecca Sims
- Robert Smith
- Kay Taylor
- Julia Thackray
- Carol Trimmer

Ministers have approved the appointment from 1 July 2017 until 30 June 2020, the following serving Parole Board members who were successful applicants in the recent open recruitment process.

- Graham Bull
- Sue Dale
- Malcolm Davidson
- Sian Flynn
- Alan Harris
- Bill Mayne
- Clare Mitchell
- Susan Smith
- Ilana Tessler

## **Judicial members**

Ministers have approved the appointment of the following judicial members from 1 December 2016 until 30 November 2019.

- HH Anthony Ansell
- HH Pamela Badley
- HH Roger Chapple
- HHJ Stephen Dawson
- HH John Dowse
- HHJ John Evans
- HH Peter Grobel
- HH Simon Hammond
- HH John Harrow

These members below have been appointed from 1 July 2017 until 30 June 2020.

- The Hon Sir David Calvert-Smith
- HH Nick Coleman
- HH Michael Lawson
- HHJ Philip Wassall

## **Psychiatrist members**

Ministers have approved the appointment of Luke Birmingham and Huw Stone from 1 December 2016 until 30 November 2020.

Ministers have appointed two serving members: Lynne Daly and Caryl Morgan from 1 December 2016 until 30 November 2020.

Ministers have approved the appointment of Tim McInerny, Chris Jones and Sajid Muzaffar from 1 July 2017 until 30 June 2021.

## **Psychologist members**

Ministers have approved the appointment of the following members. From 1 December 2016 until 30 November 2020:

- Abby Fenton
- Jane Gilbert
- Victoria Magrath
- Mary McMurran
- Rebecca Milner
- Wendy Morgan
- Brendan O'Mahony
- Sue Vivian-Byrne

From 1 July 2017 until 30 June 2021.

- Fiona Ainsworth
- Pamela Attwell
- Elina Baker
- Claire Barker

- Linda Blud
- Vivien Le Fort
- Lindy Maslin
- Libby Payne
- Rachel Roper
- Georgina Rowse
- Alyson Smith
- Claire Smith

## **Re-appointments**

### **Judicial members**

Ministers have approved the reappointment of four Judicial members. Details of those reappointed and the duration of each reappointment are provided below.

- HHJ Jeffrey Burke QC from 31 August 2016 until 30 August 2018
- HH Robert Brown from 1 September 2016 until 30 August 2018
- HH Michael Burr from 1 September 2016 until 31 August 2018
- HHJ Nicholas Webb from 1 October 2016 until 26 September 2020

### **Psychiatrist members**

Ministers have approved the reappointments from 1 September 2016 until 31 August 2018 of:

- Ian Keitch
- John O'Grady
- Helen Whitworth

### **Psychologist members**

Ministers have approved the reappointment of 13 members. Details of those reappointed and the duration of each reappointment are provided below.

- Martha Blom-Cooper from 17 April 2016 until 16 April 2018
- Joanna Homewood from 31 August 2016 until 30 August 2018
- Eleni Belevanaki from 7 November 2016 until 6 November 2021
- Jacqueline Bates-Gaston from 28 November 2016 until 13 November 2021

From 28 November 2016 until 27 November 2021;

- Eliza Harris
- Julia Higginbottom
- Claire Hunt
- Sarah Khan
- Sharon Leitch
- Lorraine Mosson-Jones
- Caroline Preston
- Kate Saward
- Anne Williams

## **Extension of appointment**

The CPA also agreed an exemption from the provisions of the Code of Practice in order that Ministers might extend the appointment of a number of serving Parole Board members so that they might support the mentoring and training of newly appointed members. These were as follows:

### **Independent members**

Ministers have approved the extension of the appointments from 1 October 2016 until 30 September 2018 of:

- Ms Kim Evans
- James Haines MBE
- Peter Haynes
- Andrew Mimmack
- Emma Pusill
- Alan Rayner
- Denise White

### **Psychiatrist members**

Ministers have approved the extension of the appointments from 1 October 2016 until 30 September 2018 of:

- Dawn Black
- Derek Chiswick
- Rosmarie Cope
- Paul Courtney
- Sukh Lally

## **Declarations of political interest**

The following Members have declared that they have political interest within the last 5 years:

- Victoria Scott has declared that she had canvassed on behalf of the Labour Party or helped at election, she also acted as a teller outside the local polling station.
- Nicola Auguste has declared that she had canvassed on behalf of the Liberal Democrats Party or helped at the previous 2 general elections by assisting with the organisation of election day activities. This included co-ordinating door to door canvassing and updating databases. She also attended polling stations to ask if voters would give their voter number.
- Sian Flynn has declared that she canvassed for the Conservative Party in the 2015 General Election.
- Chris Jones has declared that he is an active member of the Labour Party and holds an Executive Committee position in his local constituency party. In 2015, he stood as a Parliamentary candidate. In 2016, he stood as the Labour and Cooperative candidate in the Police and Crime Commissioner election.

- Peter Haynes has declared that he stood as an Independent member of Eccleston Parish Council from 2006 to 2011.
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## **China hopes to cover flights, trains with internet**

China is hoping to make the internet available in aircraft cabins, high speed trains or even remote mountainous areas, thanks to six communication satellites it's planning to send into orbit this year, according to China National Radio.

The first satellite – Shijian-13 – is to be launched on a Long March 3B (also known as the CZ-3B) rocket from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center (XSLC) in April.

Shi Jian 13 is an experimental geostationary satellite, designed to test electric propulsion, with an orbital life of 15 years, according to Gunter's Space Page.

Deputy chief designer, Wang Min, says it's the country's first high-throughput satellite (HTS). It's capable of relaying traffic many times the speed of traditional fixed satellite services (FSS), for the same amount of allocated frequency on orbit, according to intelsat.com.

Later in the year, the scientific research satellite Shijian-18 will be delivered into orbit by the Long March 5B rocket in mid-2017, according to Space Flights News.

Zhou Zhicheng, director of the communications satellite department of the China Academy of Space Technology, said the launch of these communications satellites will help improve the prospects for China's satellite mobile communications system.

On a global scale, 24 communications satellites operating in orbit currently were manufactured by Chinese organizations, according to China National Radio.

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## **We need urgent action to tackle the**

# understaffing which is contributing to the Tories' prisons crisis – Yasmin Qureshi

**Yasmin**

**Qureshi MP, Labour's Shadow Prisons Minister**, commenting on today's National Offender Management Service (NOMS) workforce statistics, said:

"It's no wonder ministers tried to sneak this out during Parliamentary recess.

"It would appear Liz Truss's flagship recruitment drive is failing and frontline officers are still leaving the service.

"We need urgent action to tackle the understaffing which is contributing to the Tories' prisons crisis."