

Written Ministerial Statement

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The Executive Office

APPOINTMENT OF THE POLICE OMBUDSMAN FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

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Mrs O'Neill (The First Minister) and Mrs Little-Pengelly (The deputy First Minister): We are pleased to announce the appointment of Jacqui Durkin as the new Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland, effective from the 26 June 2026. Jacqui brings extensive experience and insight that will strengthen the work of the Ombudsman's office and support meaningful change where needed.

The Ombudsman plays a vital role in maintaining confidence in policing by providing independent oversight and ensuring complaints are handled fairly and impartially. This function is central to upholding accountability and strengthening public trust.

Jacqui Durkin brings significant experience in leadership, governance and public service. Her commitment to transparency and accountability will be instrumental in supporting the continued effectiveness and independence of the Office of the Police Ombudsman. We wish her every success in this important role.