

## Re: Independent Family Returns Panel – Appointment of Helen Chamberlain as Interim Chair

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16 March 2020 at 12:44

The Commissioner is content with the interim appointment of Ms Chamberlain as the Chair of the Independent Family Returns Panel for a period of not more than six months, from 1 May 2020. He notes the confidence the Secretary of State has in her experience on the Panel as a member and her policing career, and notes the importance of the Chair during this time of change to immigration policy and enforcement which means carrying a vacancy is not advisable.

It is unfortunate the competition has been delayed, but he notes the commitment to progress to interviews for a substantive Chair as soon as possible, and acknowledges your adherence to the Code in ensuring applicants have been kept informed throughout the delays.

Please do let us know as the competition progresses, and when Ms Chamberlain's interim appointment is announced so OCPA's website can be updated in due course.

Best wishes, hope you are all keeping well,

**Gabrielle Bourke**

Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments G/08, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ



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