

## **Inquiry into the Retirement of the Former Commissioner of Police**

### **Summary of rulings concerning relevance of evidence and alleged incentives for providing evidence to the Inquiry**

1. On 01 March 2024 I delivered two rulings on matters which were originally items 8 and 9 on the agenda for the Fourth Preliminary Hearing ('PH4').
2. Those agenda items had to be adjourned at PH4 following representations by SIO John McVea of the RGP, the officer investigating allegations relating to alleged offers of incentives in exchange for evidence to the Inquiry, that it would – or might – prejudice his investigations, if I was then to rule upon these matters. Accordingly, I decided that I had to adjourn the determination of these issues pending that investigation. SIO McVea / the RGP accepts that the Inquiry should proceed, and I therefore need to determine items 8 and 9 before the substantive hearing commencing on 8<sup>th</sup> April.
3. Item 8 related to 19 witness statements which were filed by current or former members of the Gibraltar Police Federation. Having considered the statements and submissions from CPs, I have concluded that three of the statements contained evidence which is relevant to the Inquiry's terms of reference and List of Issues (although those three statements also contained irrelevant material, which will be redacted prior to the statements being uploaded on the Inquiry website [www.coircomp.gi](http://www.coircomp.gi) ).
4. Item 9 concerned the circumstances surrounding the submission of these statements, and specifically whether the Inquiry should investigate allegations that incentives were offered in exchange for the giving of the evidence to the Inquiry. Having considered the matter, I am satisfied that, in order to maintain the integrity of the Inquiry and retain public confidence, the Inquiry should seek evidence and disclosure of the circumstances in which these statements came to be made. The Inquiry team has commenced this process.

Sir Peter Openshaw

**1 March 2024**