



## GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR

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### **“Government thanks Eddie Guerrero and welcomes the selection of Richard Garcia to be the new Chairman of the GPA”**

The Government notes with appreciation for his work in the role, the retirement of Mr Eddie Guerrero as Chairman of the Gibraltar Police Authority, and welcomes the selection by the Specified Appointments Commission of Mr Richard Garcia as his successor.

The Gibraltar Police Authority is an essential element of the new constitutional architecture for ensuring the operational independence of the RGP from the Government and all other authorities, and its transparency and accountability directly to the community that it polices.

In Gibraltar we have gone even further than in the UK in ring fencing the police from political or any other control or involvement by excluding politicians from the Gibraltar Police Authorities. In the UK local police authorities partly consist of local politicians. In London, for example the Mayor plays a leading role.

Chief Minister Peter Caruana said: “As its first Chairman, Eddie Guerrero has succeeded in establishing and embedding the GPA and its very important role despite Gibraltar having no prior experience of such an institution. I wish to thank him for his work and commitment to this task, and indeed for accepting the difficult challenge in the first place, and also to congratulate him for his outstanding success”.

Mr Richard Garcia, the new Chairman has recently retired as Chief Secretary of the Gibraltar Government and therefore has a wealth of knowledge and experience to bring to bear on his new role. He has also been a member of the GPA since its inception. The Government congratulates him on his appointment.