

NEWS RELEASE
1st October 2023

Gary Roberts QPM appointed as new executive director of the Small Countries Financial Management Centre

The Small Countries Financial Management Centre (SCFMC) today announces the appointment of a new executive director, Gary Roberts QPM, who will take up the role on 1st October 2023. Gary served as the Chief Constable of the Isle of Man Constabulary for more than ten years until his retirement in March 2023.

Stephen Pickford, chairman of the SCFMC board announced the appointment and said: *"I am delighted that our search for a new executive director has ended with the appointment of Gary Roberts. He brings a unique combination of skills and experience and his appointment will help reinforce the strong links that the Small Countries financial Management Centre has with the Isle of Man government. His insight into the challenges that small jurisdictions face will help us to continue to provide relevant and meaningful training and development for public officials from small countries around the world"*

Gary Roberts will be the third executive director of SCFMC since it was established in the Isle of Man in 2008. He follows Professor Tim Cullen MBE and the late Mark Shimmin MBE, who died in June 2023 after a long illness.

Stephen Pickford continued: *"Mark Shimmin was an outstandingly good executive director; who made a vast contribution, not only to the SCFMC but also to the scores of individuals who have benefited from attending its programmes. I and my fellow directors are looking forward to seeing Gary further develop our work."*

Gary Roberts said: *"I am delighted to have been offered the opportunity to lead the SCFMC as it continues its mission to build capacity at senior levels in the financial management of small countries. I have been aware of the SCFMC for a long time and I know how much of a difference it has made, giving opportunities to professionals to access world-class support. I am relishing the opportunity to getting to work, not just on the 2024 programme, but in helping the SCFMC meet some of the significant challenges that it faces."*

He continued: "I know how vital the support of the Isle of Man government has been to the success of the SCFMC and I look forward to strengthening yet further the links that exist with the Cabinet Office, the Treasury, our friends at the Nunnery and with various other bodies and individuals across the island. The role that the SCFMC plays shows the Isle of Man to be a mature jurisdiction that plays its part in good governance across the world."