

THE ELECTORAL OFFICE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

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BELFAST EAST ASSEMBLY MEMBER ANNOUNCED

Douglas Bain, the Chief Electoral Officer, today announced that Dawn Purvis from Belfast has been returned as a member of the Assembly for the Belfast East constituency with effect from 24 January 2007.

Ms Purvis takes up the seat left vacant following the death of David Ervine.

Notes to Editors

The law provides that on election each Assembly member can provide the Chief Electoral Officer with a list of substitutes to fill their seat if it falls vacant for any reason. Ms Purvis was the first substitute on Mr Ervine's list. The law further provides that once the substitute informs the Chief Electoral Officer that he or she is willing and able to serve then the Officer must declare them returned as a member of the Assembly and give public notice of that fact. An announcement of Ms Purvis' return will appear in Friday's Belfast Gazette.