

HUMBERSIDE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

**CO-OPTION OF AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER ON TO THE HUMBERSIDE
POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 Two compulsory non-political independent members are required to form part of the Police and Crime Panel under Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
- 1.2 There is currently an independent member vacancy on the Humberside Police and Crime Panel.
- 1.3 This report outlines the options for the recruitment of co-opted independent members of the Police and Crime Panel, including the possible establishment of a selection panel to shortlist and interview candidates.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act introduced significant changes in police governance and accountability, in particular replacing the Police Authorities with directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners.
- 2.2 The Act requires the establishment of a Police and Crime Panel (PCP) whose membership comprises a minimum of two co-opted independent members to the PCP and that the appointment of these members must be agreed by the Panel itself.
- 2.3 The appointment of independent co-opted members provides an opportunity for the Panel to broaden its experience, knowledge and skills.
- 2.4 The process for selecting independent co-optees must be determined by each individual force area. A three member panel, supported by North Lincolnshire Council Democratic Services Officers, led on this in the spring of 2016. Following a rigorous selection process, the Panel re-appointed Mrs Sue Whittaker. The appointment was ratified by the Humberside Police and Crime Panel at its meeting on 27 June 2016.

- 2.5 The Secretary to the Panel again advertised for the vacant position in the Summer of 2016. Unfortunately, no applicants were deemed suitable for the position.
- 2.6 Interviews were again held on 13 September 2018 for the vacant position of Independent Co-opted Member. Unfortunately, no applicants were deemed suitable for the position.
- 2.7 The independent member position has remained vacant ever since.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 There are two options for consideration –
 - a) Option 1 – To advertise for the vacant position of independent member on the Humberside Police and Crime Panel.
 - b) Option 2 - That the Panel continues with just one independent member.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Option 1 would allow the Panel to appoint a second independent member. The appointment would add to the experience, knowledge and skills of the Panel.
- 4.2 Option 2 would result in the Panel continuing to operate with only one independent member. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act states that the Panel membership should comprise a minimum of two co-opted independent members.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

- 5.1 There are no financial and staffing resource implications as existing resources are available through the Police and Crime Panel Grant and Secretariat respectively.
- 5.2 There are no IT implications.

6. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

- 6.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act requires Police and Crime Panels to appoint two co-opted independent members. Therefore, there is no requirement to consult on whether to appoint co-opted members.

7. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Panel is asked to –

- 7.1 Consider the appointment of a Selection Panel to shortlist and interview candidates?
- 7.2 Consider an appropriate recruitment timetable and process?

SECRETARY OF THE HUMBERSIDE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

Local Government Association Guidance on appointing independent co-opted members

