

Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel

Date: 7 February 2024

Subject: Co-opted Independent Panel Member

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Executive Summary:

This report provides details regarding the appointment of a Co-opted Independent Member to the Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel.

This report was prepared after consultation with:

Ann Good, Democratic Services Manager, East Lindsey District Council

List of background papers as required by law:

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

Other helpful papers:

Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel 'Panel Arrangements'

Police and Crime Panels: Guidance on appointing independent co-opted members, Local Government Association, June 2012

Is the report Exempt: No

Background

1. The Lincolnshire Police and Crime Panel (The Panel) is required under Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 to co-opt 2 non-political independent members.
2. The co-option of independent members is intended to assist in supporting the aim that the membership of a Police and Crime Panel, when taken as a whole, has the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to enable the Panel to carry out its functions effectively.
3. In accordance with the Panel Arrangements the appointment of the 2 co-opted independent members shall be decided by the ten appointed members on the Panel.
4. The four year appointment of one of the Panel's current independent co-opted members is due to come to an end in June 2024.
5. The Panel Arrangements state under section 3.27 that co-opted members appointed to the Panel may be re-appointed for a further term of four years subject to compliance with the balanced appointment objective. Should a co-

opted member wish to be reappointed to the Panel it would need to be agreed by the appointed panel members.

6. The independent co-opted member has indicated that he would like to be re-appointed for a further four year term.
7. If the appointed panel members choose not to approve the re-appointment of the independent co-opted member, the Panel will be required to recruit a new co-opted independent member.
8. In accordance with the Panel Arrangements new co-opted independent members shall be appointed following public advertisement in accordance with the following principles:
 - a) The appointment will be made on merit of candidates whose skills, experience and qualities are considered best to ensure the effective functioning of the Panel;
 - b) The selection process must be fair, objective, impartial and consistently applied to all candidates who will be assessed against the same pre-determined criteria; and,
 - c) The selection process will be conducted transparently with information about the requirements for the appointment and the process being publicly advertised and made available with a view to attracting a strong and diverse field of suitable candidates.
9. Should the Panel decide to recruit a new co-opted member it is recommended that the Panel establishes a three member Task Group to undertake the recruitment following the process detailed in the attached document. The Task Group would report back to the June 2024 Panel Meeting (date to be approved) with a recommended co-opted independent member for the Panel to consider for approval.

Recommendations

The Panel's appointed members consider whether or not to reappoint the co-opted independent panel member for a further four year term.

Should the Panel decide to recruit a new co-opted independent Panel member, that the Panel establishes a three member Task Group to undertake the recruitment process and that the Task Group reports back to the 7th June 2024 (date to be approved) Panel Meeting with its recommendations.

REASON: To fulfil the statutory requirement for the Panel membership to include 2 co-opted independent members.