

Cleveland Police and Crime Panel

Panel Arrangements

Introduction

1. These are the arrangements (“arrangements”) for the establishment and maintenance of a police and crime panel (“the Panel”) for the Cleveland Force Area, as required by paragraph 24 of schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (“the Act”).

Panel Functions

2. The Panel will have the functions referred to in Part 1, Chapter 4 (scrutiny of police and crime commissioners) and conferred by Schedules 1 (procedure for appointments of senior staff), 5 (issuing precepts) and 8 (procedure for appointments by police and crime commissioners) of the Act and any related regulations issued by the Secretary of State (“related regulations”), including but not limited to regulations about complaints and conduct matters under schedule 7 of the Act.

Status of the Panel

3. The Panel is a joint committee of the Councils (together called “the Councils”) of the Borough of Hartlepool (“Hartlepool”), Middlesbrough (“Middlesbrough”), Redcar and Cleveland (“Redcar”) and Stockton-on-Tees (“Stockton-on-Tees”).

Composition

4. The composition of the Panel, and the appointment of Panel Members by the Councils and the co-option of members by the Panel, will take place, so far as is reasonably practicable, in accordance with the balanced appointment objective set out in the Act. This will take account of the make-up of the administrative areas of each of the Councils, their political make-up, and the required skills, knowledge and experience for the Panel to function effectively.
5. The Panel will consist of ten elected Members nominated and appointed by the Councils (“appointed members”).
6. At its first meeting of the Panel, the Panel will, subject to the agreement of the Secretary of State, resolve that the Panel will have four co-opted members, two of whom will be elected members of the Councils and two of whom will not be elected members of the Councils or persons otherwise restricted by the Act, or any related regulations from being a member of the Panel.

Co-option

7. The Panel will, in accordance with the Act and related regulations co-opt four members of the Panel (“co-opted members”) as required by paragraph 6 of these arrangements and subject to the requirements of the following paragraph 8.

Appointment

8. The twelve elected members of the Panel will be nominated and appointed as follows:-

Hartlepool – two

Middlesbrough – three

Redcar – three

Stockton-on-Tees – four (including the two co-opted elected Members)

Terms of Office

9. The first terms of office of the appointed members and of the co-opted members will be for the period up to the first meeting of the Panel after the last of the Annual Meetings of the Councils to be held in 2015, subject however to the provisions of paragraph 10.
10. A person will cease to be a Panel member if:-
- (i) he ceased to be an elected local authority member for whatever reason; or
 - (ii) he resigns; or
 - (iii) he dies; or if
 - (iv) he is removed by the local authority which nominated and appointed him
11. There is no restriction on the number of terms of office (consecutive or otherwise) which a Panel member may hold.

Expenses

12. Panel Members will be entitled to submit claims, supported by appropriate receipts where reasonably practicable, to Stockton-on-Tees for travel and subsistence, at rates specified in the Stockton-on-Tees Members' Allowances Scheme, in relation to a meeting of the Panel or any of its sub-committees or to duties approved by Stockton-on-Tees and undertaken on behalf of the Panel or in connection with the discharge of the Panel's responsibilities.
13. Save for the expenses referred to in the preceding paragraph, Panel members will receive no other expenses or allowances regarding their duties as such members.

Promotion of the Panel

14. Stockton-on-Tees, with the support and assistance of the other Councils, will take such steps as it considers reasonably practicable, to promote the role of the Panel throughout the Cleveland Force Area.

Support and Guidance

15. Stockton-on-Tees will be the lead authority for the Panel and will ensure that appropriate administrative, and other support, and guidance is provided to the Panel and its members.
16. Stockton-on-Tees will also provide appropriate support and guidance in relation to the functions of the Panel to all members of the Councils, to members of the executives of each of the Councils and to relevant Officers.

Financial Arrangements

17. Stockton-on-Tees will be the accountable body for the purposes of the receipt, retention and administration of central government funding to finance the maintenance and operation of the Panel.

Variation

18. The provisions of these arrangements may be varied or added to by mutual agreement of the Councils.