

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CLEVELAND POLICE & CRIME PANEL

6 AUGUST 2012

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF LAW AND DEMOCRACY

Appointment Process for Non- Political Independent Members

SUMMARY

To agree a process for the appointment of two non-political independent members.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1 That the Panel agree the arrangements for the appointment of two non-political independent members as detailed at paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 below.
- 2 That delegated authority be given to the Director of Law and Democracy (Stockton on Tees Borough Council) to, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman, amend and finalise the arrangements and associated documents, detailed in the appendix and paragraph 4, should it become necessary.

DETAIL

1. Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires that each Police and Crime Panel appoints two non-political independent members.
2. The two independent members should be appointed in the context of ensuring that the panel has the necessary skills, knowledge and experience to discharge its functions effectively.
3. Attached, as an **Appendix**, are draft documents associated with the appointment of independent members. The Panel is asked to consider and provide comments and views on these documents.
4. Subject to the Panels discussions, it is suggested that:-
 - the advertising process will utilise all available free opportunities, including press release, web site and existing mailings and partnerships.
 - the recruitment process will be in line with existing practice and the recent guidance issued by the Local Government Association.

- a politically balanced selection sub panel of 5 drawn from the full panel, be appointed to conduct short listings and interviews to determine the two most suitable candidates to be the non-political independent members, with the full Panel endorsing the decision prior to the candidates being notified and formally appointed.
 - in line with other Panel members, the non-political Independent Members be paid travel and subsistence expenses as per Stockton on Tees Borough Council's scheme.
5. If the Panel agreed to appoint a selection sub panel of 5, then the political balance would be Labour 3, Conservatives 1, Others 1. As Stockton is the only authority with a Conservative member on the Panel then, clearly, that member would need to be appointed under these arrangements. In terms of the other positions and with a view to reflecting the number of members within political groups, in each constituent authority, whilst providing each authority the opportunity to be represented on the Panel, the following is suggested:-

	Labour	Conservatives	Others
Hartlepool	-	-	1
Middlesbrough	1	-	-
Redcar and Cleveland	1	-	-
Stockton	1	1	
Total	3	1	1

Name of Contact Officer: David Bond
Director of Law and Democracy – Stockton on Tees Borough Council
Telephone No: (01642) 527060
Email Address: david.bond@stockton.gov.uk