

Cleveland Police and Crime Panel

A meeting of Cleveland Police and Crime Panel was held on Friday, 7th December, 2012.

Present: Cllr Chris Abbott; Mr Geoff Baines; Cllr Peter Cox; Mrs Gwen Duncan; Cllr George Dunning; Cllr David Harrington (substituting for Cllr Ken Dixon); Cllr Terry Laing; Cllr Steve Nelson; Cllr Carl Richardson; Cllr Charlie Rooney; Cllr Norma Stephenson; Cllr Bernie Taylor.

Officers: Mike Batty, David Bond, Jill Douglas, Michael Henderson (Stockton on Tees Borough Council).

Also in attendance: Edward Chicken (Middlesbrough Borough Council), Barry Coppinger (Police and Crime Commissioner).

Apologies: Mayor Stuart Drummond, Councillor Ken Dixon, Councillor Ray Goddard.

PCP 28/12 **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor David Harrington and Councillor Steve Nelson declared personal, non-prejudicial interest as employees of Middlesbrough Borough Council.

PCP 29/12 **Confirmation Hearing Purpose and Procedure**

The purpose of the meeting was explained, which was to hold a confirmation before making a report and recommendation to the Police and Crime Commissioner (“the Commissioner”) in relation to his proposed appointment of a Chief Executive. The hearing was a meeting of the Panel, held in public, at which the candidate, Mr Edward Chicken, was requested to appear for the purpose of answering questions relating to the proposed appointment.

The procedure to be followed was explained, and it was indicated that when the questions asked of the Candidate by Panel members were concluded, the Panel would go into closed session, in order to agree a report and recommendations to the Commissioner. The Panel’s decision would be communicated to the Commissioner in writing by the next working day following the hearing, and a copy of the communication would be provided to the Candidate. The Panel’s decision would be embargoed until a period of five days had elapsed following the hearing. The Commissioner and Candidate would be asked not to release details of the decision during this period.

PCP 30/12 **Questioning of Candidate**

Details of a report and notification from the Commissioner, regarding the proposed appointment, were considered by the Panel. These provided details of the background to the Commissioner’s proposal to secure the secondment of Mr Edward Chicken from Middlesbrough Borough Council under a one year contract as the Commissioner’s Chief Executive.

Panel members asked questions of Mr Chicken regarding the role of Chief Executive; the abilities and qualities which the Candidate considered he would bring to that role; his relevant experience in his previous role; the individuals, groups and agencies who would need to be involved and engaged in order to deliver police and crime plan objectives and how that engagement would be

achieved; the instances where the Candidate had needed to provide what might be difficult or sensitive advice to his superiors in the past and how he had approached that; why a secondment was considered to be appropriate and what commitment the Candidate, as a secondee, would have to the job role in the longer term; and as a Middlesbrough Borough Council employee what the Candidate's commitment would be to the four Cleveland Boroughs.

When responses had been provided to all of the Panel Members' questions, the candidate was given an opportunity to clarify any answers given and to ask questions of the Panel. The hearing then concluded and the Panel went into closed session to consider its report and recommendations.

**PCP
31/12**

Closed session for the Panel to consider its recommendation

The Panel agreed unanimously that Mr Chicken was an excellent candidate and that his appointment / secondment should be fully supported.

RESOLVED that the Panel unanimously confirms its full support for the appointment / secondment of Mr Edward Chicken as Chief Executive to the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner.