

Cleveland Police and Crime Panel

A meeting of Cleveland Police and Crime Panel was held on Tuesday, 12th October, 2021.

Present: Cllr Tony Riordan (Chair); Cllr Barrie Cooper, Cllr Chris Jones, Paul McGrath, Cllr Stephen Picton, Cllr Amy Prince, Luigi Salvati and Cllr Norma Stephenson.

Officers: Julie Butcher, Fiona Attewill, Peter Bell (Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council).

Also in attendance: Steve Turner (Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner), Lisa Oldroyd (Office for the Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioner - Candidate).

Apologies: Cllr Stefan Houghton, Cllr Tom Mawston, Cllr Steve Nelson and Mayor Andy Preston.

PCP 29/21 Introduction and Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were given.

PCP 30/21 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

PCP 31/21 Confirmation Hearing Purpose and Procedure

The Panel was presented with the Confirmation Hearing Purpose and Procedure.

RESOLVED that the Confirmation Hearing Purpose and Procedure be noted.

PCP 32/21 Key documents associated with the appointment

A report was submitted to the Panel following notification from the Police and Crime Commissioner of his intention to appoint a Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer.

The post of Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer had been held by Simon Dennis who also acted as Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer for the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire. Mr Turner agreed to release Mr Dennis from his role with the Police and Crime Commissioner's Office for Cleveland early by mutual agreement with North Yorkshire, leaving the post at Cleveland vacant. The post was temporarily filled by Lisa Oldroyd following a Confirmation Hearing of the Panel in June 2021.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 obliges a Police and Crime Commissioner to appoint a chief executive, and further requires the Commissioner to appoint an acting chief executive whenever that post was vacant. The Commissioner had notified the Panel that he was reviewing the role profile and would undertake a permanent selection process but, in the meantime, proposed to appoint Lisa Oldroyd as the acting chief executive and monitoring officer.

The Police and Crime Commissioner was obliged to notify the Police and Crime

Panel of a proposed appointment to the post of Chief Executive which he did by letter addressed to the Chair of the Panel dated 1 October 2021.

The Commissioner was also obliged to provide the following:-

- (a) the name of the person whom the commissioner is proposing to appoint (“the candidate”);
- (b) the criteria used to assess the suitability of the candidate for the appointment;
- (c) why the candidate satisfies those criteria; and
- (d) the terms and conditions on which the candidate is to be appointed.

The details of a) to d) were provided to the Panel.

The Panel was obliged to review the proposed appointment at a confirmation hearing and make a recommendation to the Commissioner whether or not to make the appointment. The recommendation must be made within 3 weeks of the Commissioner notifying the Panel of the proposal.

The Panel had no power to veto the appointment of a Chief Executive.

The proposed candidate could be requested to attend the confirmation hearing to answer questions and Lisa Oldroyd was in attendance at the hearing.

The Commissioner may accept or reject the Panel’s recommendation.

Guidance published by the Local Government Association to Panels regarding confirmation hearings advised that a panel should only consider a candidate’s professional competence, i.e. ability to carry out the role, personal independence, operationally, from the Commissioner and how they met the person specification for the role.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

**PCP
33/21 Questioning of the Candidate**

Before the commencement of the question and answer session the Candidate gave a brief personal statement. Panel members were then given the opportunity to ask questions of the Candidate and these centred around the following, what do you consider the role of chief Executive to be? What abilities and qualities are needed for this role in your view? What individuals, groups or agencies do you consider would need to be involved and engaged in order to deliver the objectives of the police and crime plan? How will that involvement/engagement be achieved? What expectations will you have of those who are involved in the plan’s delivery? Can you tell us about any cases when you have needed to provide unwelcome advice to your superiors, and describe how you have approached that? What further training and development do you think you need to become fully effective in your new role?

RESOLVED that the question and answer session be noted.

**PCP
34/21 Closed Session for the Panel to consider its recommendation**

The hearing then concluded and the Panel went into closed session to consider

its report and recommendations.

Members of the Panel unanimously agreed that Lisa Oldroyd appeared competent to carry out the role of Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer and would support her appointment.

RESOLVED that the Panel recommends to the Police and Crime Commissioner that Lisa Oldroyd be appointed as Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer.

The Panel also agreed that the embargo on publishing the report could be reduced and this was agreed with the Police and Crime Commissioner.