

DERBYSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

15 SEPTEMBER 2016

Report of the Director of Legal Services of Derbyshire County Council

RECRUITMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBER

1. Purpose of Report

Inform Members of the recruitment and selection process for a new Independent Member of the Police and Crime Panel.

2. Information and Analysis

Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires police and crime panels to co-opt at least two non-political Independent Members. The term of office for an Independent Member is four years. Due to this period coming to an end in November 2016 for one of the Independent Panel Members, Ms. Vicky Wibberley, it is necessary undertake an open recruitment process so that the Panel remains fully constituted.

The Panel Arrangements set out the principles of the recruitment process for Derbyshire. The Arrangements provide that:

- a) The position shall be advertised for a reasonable period and in any case at least 2 weeks,
- b) Information packs will be prepared and sent to those requesting application forms,
- c) Applications will be considered against an agreed eligibility criteria and then the Chair of the Panel will consider the applications and interview the candidates. However, the Panel may wish to consider a small working group involving one or more other Panel Members to ensure there is sufficient capacity to review potential candidates.
- d) Following the interviews a recommendation for co-option will be made to the Panel.

It is proposed:

- To advertise for an Independent Panel Member using the advert as in Appendix One.
- To advertise the position on each of the ten constituent councils' websites, as well as making use of 'free' advertising, such as press releases and social media.
- To advertise in local print media.
- To provide the information pack to be sent to potential candidates.
- To use the checklist of eligibility criteria in line with the skills and experience required to support the Chair (and working group Members if approved) in shortlisting the candidates.
- To provide the necessary officer support (including HR support) to enable the Chair (and working group Members if approved) to interview the candidates and take the recommendation back to the Panel.

3. Other considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: financial, legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health and transport considerations.

4. Background papers

Held by the Director of Legal Services, Derbyshire County Council.

5. OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the Panel:

- Notes the recruitment and selection process for an Independent Panel Member
- Approves the membership of a working group to undertake the interviewing of candidates

John McElvaney
Director of Legal Services
Derbyshire County Council

Recruitment of Independent Member of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Panel.

In May 2016, the county of Derbyshire (including Derby City) elected its second Police and Crime Commissioner who is responsible for setting the priorities and resources for the Derbyshire Constabulary, as well as supporting broader community safety activities across the region.

In addition to this a Police and Crime Panel scrutinises the work of the Commissioner. The purpose of this role is to assist the Commissioner through providing independent challenge as a critical friend.

The Panel is made up of at least one Councillor representative from each of the ten local authorities in the force area and at least two Independent Members.

The Commissioner is required to consult with the Panel on plans and budget for policing, as well as the level of council tax and the appointment of a Chief Constable.

A vacancy has arisen for a committed and energetic person to be an Independent Member of the Panel. You will either live, or work within Derby or Derbyshire and be prepared to serve as an Independent Member for four years. This is an exciting opportunity to be involved in arrangements for reducing crime and disorder.

The voluntary role of a Panel Member will be an important and demanding one, although it is not expected to exceed one day a month, including preparation time.

Meetings can be held at varying locations throughout Derbyshire, although currently these are at County Hall, Matlock. As an Independent Panel Member, you will be able to claim reasonable expenses. All Panel Members receive induction and other appropriate training.

For a copy of the application pack please e-mail scrutiny@derbyshire.co.uk or telephone 01629 538263. The closing date for applications is 14th October 2016

The Panel wishes to reflect the breadth of communities in the Derbyshire area and welcomes applications from all eligible people irrespective of gender, ethnic origin, religious belief, sexual orientation, disability or any other factor.