

COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting date: 23 June 2022

From: Leader of the Council

APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES – CUMBRIA POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 *This report recommends that members are appointed to the Police and Crime Panel for 2022 in line with the procedure agreed between the County Council and District Councils.*

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

2.1 *There are no specific strategic planning or equality implications.*

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 *Council is recommended to appoint 3 members of the Council to the Police and Crime Panel in line with the allocations set out in this report.*

4.0 BACKGROUND

Cumbria Police and Crime Panel

4.1 Cumbria Police and Crime Panel (PCP) is a statutory scrutiny body which is a joint committee between the County Council and the six District Councils. The statutory membership of the panel is 10 councillor members and 2 co-opted members independent of the Councils. The Cumbria local authorities have agreed that the councillor membership will reflect the political balance of the County as far as possible.

4.2 The Council makes annual appointments to the PCP. Entitlement to seats is determined by a procedure agreed between the County Council and District Councils which operates as follows. The County and six District Councils each appoint one member to sit on the PCP. This fills 7 of the 10 places on the committee.

4.3 In determining its nomination, the Council is required to give consideration to the “balanced objective requirement” and to the continuity of membership to enable the Panel’s expertise and skills to be developed for the effective scrutiny of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Cllr Bill McEwan was appointed to the Panel to fill this place at the AGM held on 28 April 2022.

- 4.4 Following the nomination of the 7 places by the County Council and 6 District Councils, the County Council is required to undertake a review of the membership to ensure that it reflects as far as possible the overall political proportionality of the political parties across the 7 Councils.
- 4.5 If as a result of this review independent (i.e. non-aligned members) are entitled to a place (and no independent has been nominated as part of the initial 7 nominations) this is filled through an election (run by the County Council) whereby independent members on the 6 Districts and the County Council have the opportunity to vote for those independent members who wish to serve on the PCP. The successful candidate is then nominated to the PCP by their own local authority. The remaining places are nominated by the County Council.
- 4.6 Following receipt of the nominations from the Districts, the review has been undertaken. The review concludes that independent members are entitled to one place on the PCP in 2021-2022. As the nomination from Copeland Borough Council is an independent this fills this place and there is no requirement to fill this through an election.
- 4.7 As a result, the County Council is required to appoint three additional members. To reflect political proportionality across the seven Councils as far as possible all of these appointees should be members of the Conservative Group.
- 4.8 It is recommended that the Members nominated for appointment by Council to fill these posts are:

Mike Johnson
Roger Bingham
David Whipp

5.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There is sufficient budget to meet the members' allowances and expenses arising from the recommendations contained within this report.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The appointment of members to bodies as recommended in this report gives effect to the legal and constitutional provisions about membership of the PCP.

7.0 CONCLUSION

- 7.1 Council is requested to appoint 3 members to the Police and Crime Panel in accordance with this report so that the membership reflects as far as possible the political balance across the County and 6 District Councils.

Catherine A Parkinson
Interim Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer
June 2022

APPENDICES

None.

Electoral Division(s): All

Executive Decision

	No
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Key Decision

	No
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If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

		N/A
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Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

	N/A
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If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

		N/A
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Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?
If so, give details below.

	N/A
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Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?

		N/A
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Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

		N/A
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PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

Cumbria County Council – 24 June 2021 – Appointments to Committees – Cumbria Police and Crime Panel

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No relevant background papers.

RESPONSIBLE CABINET MEMBER

Leader of the Council.

REPORT AUTHOR

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