1. Executive Summary

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to set out the process that has been followed in order to co-opt one independent member to the Hampshire Police and Crime Panel, following the resignation of the previous co-opted member, and to recommend appointment to this position.

2. Legislative Context

2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 ("the Act") requires two independent co-opted members to be appointed to the Hampshire Police and Crime Panel ("the Panel"). The independent co-opted members must not be members of local authorities covered by the Hampshire Police area. In co-opting the two independent members, the Act requires that the Panel must secure that (as far as reasonably practicable) the appointed and co-opted members of the Panel, when taken together, have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary for the Panel to discharge its functions effectively.

3. Process

3.1 It was agreed by the Panel at the 24 January 2014 meeting that, following the resignation of one of the Panel’s previously appointed independent co-opted members, the recruitment process would be commenced to seek a new individual. The Panel agreed that the previously-followed process, using a cross-party selection panel comprising members of the Panel to consider the applications and make recommendations for appointment to the Panel, would be replicated on this occasion.

3.2 Applications for the independent co-opted member role were invited over a 6 week period. The advert and related information were:

- available on the Hampshire Police and Crime Panel website;
- sent as part of a press release to Hampshire and Isle of Wight media outlets;
- available on the ‘Hants Jobs’ website;
• advertised in Hampshire and IOW libraries;
• sent to public sector partners for advertising on their web pages.

3.3 In addition, Members agreed at the 4 April meeting to write to all individuals who had previously applied for the role inviting them to re-submit their application.

3.4 A total of 15 applications were received. The cross-party selection panel met on 16 April 2014 in order to short-list applications for interview, scoring the anonymised participants on the competencies and skills listed in the application pack.

3.5 Five candidates were invited to interviews, which were held on 2 May 2014. One of the candidates selected was unable to attend on the previously advertised interview date, owing to a family tragedy, and therefore was interviewed separately on 6 May 2014. All candidates were asked a number of questions relating to the responsibilities of the Hampshire Police and Crime Panel, and the skills, knowledge and experience they could offer that would assist the Panel to discharge its functions effectively.

3.6 Against a very strong field of candidates, the cross-party selection panel agreed that one candidate best demonstrated that they met the Panel’s requirements, and agreed that this individual would be recommended to the Panel for appointment to the independent co-opted member role.

3.7 The recommended candidate has been invited to attend the Panel’s 4 July meeting and the briefing session beforehand, and will therefore have the opportunity to meet Panel members.

4 Appointment

4.1 The two independent co-opted member positions previously appointed to in October 2012 were recommended for a four year term, in line with local authority member appointments, vacating their seat at the AGM of the Police and Crime Panel in the 2016/17 municipal year.

4.2 It is therefore recommended that this independent co-opted member position will be for a period of two years, until the AGM of the 2016/17 municipal year.

5 Recommendations

5.1 That Ms Amy McCulloch is appointed to the vacant independent co-opted member role on the Hampshire Police and Crime Panel.

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)
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