

Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire

Meeting to be held on the 14th September 2022

Membership Update 2022/23

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Executive Summary

To provide an update on the membership of the Police and Crime Panel for 2022/23, following the Panel's approval at the AGM on 4th July of the Membership Review.

Recommendation

Panel is asked to:

1. Note the Panel Membership for 2022/2023 as 15 core Elected Members (plus 2 co-opted Independent Members) plus, subject to Home Office approval 3 additional co-opted elected members as set out in this report, to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective' (as far as reasonably practicable).
2. Note that the Secretary has notified the Home Office of the 3 additional co-opted elected members as approved at the AGM on 4th July 2022 with the reasons as to how their appointments would assist in achieving the 'balanced appointment objective'.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced Police and Crime Panels (PCP) as formal joint committee of all the local authorities within the police force area.

The Lancashire Police & Crime Panel ('the Panel') consists of 15 Elected Members, one from each local authority and 2 co-opted Independent Members (non-political). In addition, up to 3 other Elected Members can be co-opted in order to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective' (as far as reasonably practicable), and best represents the overall political make up of all the 15 local authorities in the police area. There is also a requirement for the membership to have skills, knowledge and experience necessary for it to discharge its functions effectively.

In accordance with the legislation and available guidance, the political balance of the Panel was determined from an overall calculation based on the current political composition of all 15 local authorities in the police force area. For the purposes of the political balance calculations, the 'minor' political groups from all the 15 local

authorities have been grouped together as 'Other' and similarly, all the 'Independent' elected Members from the 15 local authorities have been being grouped together. The Panel's Arrangements enables additional elected members to be co-opted to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective', provided the total membership does not exceed 20. Based on the information provided by the 15 local authorities at the time of the AGM on 4 July, the overall political composition for the police force area was:

Con	40.58%
Lab	39.47%
Lib	5.96%
Ind	5.40%
Other	5.82%
Green	2.77%
Total	100%

Since the AGM on 4 July there has been some minor political changes, including a by-election at the Overton ward of Hyndburn Borough Council on 14 July 2022. The changes represent the following political composition of the police force area:

Con	40.64%
Lab	39.11%
Lib	5.96%
Ind	5.96%
Other	5.55%
Green	2.77%
Total	99.99%

This still represents the following composition for a politically balanced Panel of 15 elected member seats:

Lab	6
Con	6
Lib Dem	1
Ind	1
Other	1

In addition, the Panel also appoints 2 Independent Co-opted Members, who are not elected representatives to serve on the Panel. Following a recruitment process held on 7 July 2022, Richard Glover has been appointed as an Independent Co-opted Member. There is one seat still currently vacant and a further recruitment process will be held in due course to fill the vacancy.

At the Panel's AGM on 4 July it was noted that the nominations received from the 15 local authorities for the 2022/23 Panel membership of 15 elected members did not align with overall political composition of the police force area. It was reported that the 15 local authorities did not provide any confirmation to review/change their nominations and an additional 3 elected members were co-opted in order to address the 'balanced appointment objective' (as far as reasonably practicable). These

appointments would closely align the composition of the Panel with the overall political composition of the police force area.

The AGM on 4 July agreed for the 3 co-opted additional elected member seats and the full composition of the 2022/23 membership for the Panel would be as follows:

Lab - 8 (as nominated)
Con - 8 (i.e. 6 as nominated + 2 co-opted additional elected member seats)
Lib Dem - 1 (i.e. 1 co-opted additional elected member seat)
Other - 1 (as nominated)

Independent co-opted (non –political) - 2

Total – 20 seats (maximum).

The AGM therefore agreed, 2 co-opted additional seats to be allocated to the Conservative group and 1 co-opted additional seat can be allocated to the Liberal Democrat group to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective' (as far as reasonably practicable). Balancing the geographical, political make-up of the 15 local authorities, and the skills and experience needed for the Panel to discharge its functions effectively, the AGM agreed the following 3 co-opted additional elected members to the Panel for 2022/23:

1. Wyre Borough Council - Councillor Peter Le Marinel as a Conservative co-opted additional member. The Council had already confirmed Councillor Le Marinel as their co-opted additional member, who has confirmed his acceptance.
2. South Ribble Borough Council - Councillor Karen Walton has been confirmed by the Council as a Conservative co-opted additional member.
3. Pendle Borough Council – Councillor David Whipp has been confirmed by the Council as the Liberal Democrat co-opted additional member.

The Home Office has been notified of the 3 additional co-opted members, with an explanation of the reasoning for their appointments.

The current membership of the Panel is detailed in the **Appendix**.

Consultations

All Local Authorities represented on the Panel were requested to nominate a member and subsequently the Lancashire Leaders were invited to review their nomination to achieve the 'balanced appointment objective'. For the 3 additional co-opted members the respective Councils were requested to confirm their appointments.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk Management

The requirement for an Independent Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire is in accordance with the provisions of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

Legal Implications

The legal implications of this report are set out in the body of the report and were further detailed in the report to the AGN on 4 July 2022 [Report to AGM.Membership 2022 23.pdf \(blackburn.gov.uk\)](#).

It is a legal requirement to notify the Home Office of the additional co-opted members, with the reasons as to how their appointments would assist in achieving the 'balanced appointment objective'.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Responses received from the August 2022
3 Individual Local Authorities
regarding nominated co-
opted Representatives

Asad Laher
Secretary to the
Police & Crime Panel

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate N/A