

## **LANCASHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL**

Meeting to be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

### **Payment of allowances to Independent Co-opted Members**

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### **Executive Summary**

This report contains a recommendation that allowances be paid to Independent Co-opted Members of the Police and Crime Panel for Lancashire.

### **Recommendation**

1. The Panel is asked to agree the payment of allowances to Independent Co-opted Members at the rate of £400 per Co-opted Member after the final main Panel meeting each year, this payment being a single allowance as referred to in the report, subject to regular attendance and covering all expenses; and
2. That the level of all allowances payable be reviewed at the AGM meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

### **Background and Advice**

At the AGM in July 2021, the Panel agreed that the rates for the Payment of Allowances (also covering expenses) set out in the report submitted, as first discussed in July 2019 be confirmed, being single annual payments (based on 4 ordinary meetings a year and subject to regular attendance at all meetings), namely:

**Chair of the Panel £600**

**Vice Chair of the Panel £480**

**Task & Finish Group Lead £400**

**Task and Finish Group Members £300**

**To be paid after the last meeting in the cycle each year (one allowance only per qualifying Member).**

At the AGM Meeting in July, it was noted that there were now two Independent Co-opted Members on the Panel, and that it was an appropriate time to consider the payment of allowances to Co-opted Independent Members, and the Panel agreed that a report be prepared with recommendations for submission to today's meeting.

Having considered the existing level of allowances referred to above, and also similar payments made to Independent Co-opted Members of Blackburn with

Darwen's Standards Committee (which were agreed to be £400 per municipal year following recommendations from the Independent Remuneration Panel earlier this year), it is considered appropriate that a payment be made of £400 per Independent Co-opted Member on an annual basis, after the last main Panel meeting each year. This would be a single allowance, meaning if more than one role was undertaken (ie. Task and Finish Group Chair or member) only one payment of £400 would be made. The payment would also be subject to regular attendance at meetings.

If agreed, the payment would recognise the preparation undertaken ahead of meetings, attendance at main Panel meetings, and any participation in Task and Finish Groups. The payment would also ensure that Independent Co-opted Members get some recompense for expenses.

For clarity, as per the existing arrangements in place, Councillors can claim expenses relating to attendance at Panel meetings from their own local authorities, via Members Allowances, and the local authority can then re-claim these costs back from the Host Authority as appropriate, unless the Panel Member is already receiving a payment as Chair of the Panel, Vice Chair of the Panel, or a Task and Finish Group Chair or member, in which case those payments also cover any other expenses arising.

It is also suggested that the level of payments made to Panel Members for all the roles identified in this report be reviewed at the AGM on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024, as it will have then been three years since the original figures were agreed.

### **Consultations**

N/A

### **Implications:**

N/A

### **Legal Implications**

N/A

### **Financial Implications**

The Grant Agreement includes a maximum of £53,300 for costs of administering Panels and up to £920 for expenses per member to a maximum of £18,400 (maximum 20 Panel members). This has confirmed again by the Home Office for 2023/24.

### **Risk management**

N/A

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

Grant documentation

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Reasons for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate – N/A