

REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP – BALANCED APPOINTMENT OBJECTIVE

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider the Panel's membership and any changes required to meet the balanced appointment objective as required by legislation.

Information and Advice

2. The Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011 specifies that Police and Crime Panels must represent all parts of the police force area, be politically balanced and that members should have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary.
3. The Panel needs to review its membership at its Annual Meeting in June (or following elections which may have affected the Panel's political balance).

Elected members and proportional representation

4. There have been a number changes to representation on the Panel made by the relevant Councils. These are as follows:-
 - Gedling – Cllr John Clarke has been replaced by Cllr David Ellis
 - Nottingham City – Cllr Jon Collins and Cllr Carole McCulloch have been replaced by Cllr Neghat Khan and Cllr Rosemary Healy
5. The recent Bassetlaw District Council election results resulted in Labour gaining one additional seat on that Council at the expense of the Conservatives. This result has not affected the political balance of the Panel overall. The political balance is calculated by totalling the various seats across the whole of the County.
6. The current Councillor membership of the Panel therefore should remain as follows:-

<u>Cllr Seats</u>	<u>Labour</u>	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Lib Dems</u>	<u>Independent</u>
14	8	4	1	1

7. In line with the Panel Arrangements, any proposal to increase the number of co-options for elected members requires the unanimous agreement of the Panel.

Independent Members

8. Each Police and Crime Panel is required to have at least two independent members. The Panel previously agreed a proposal arising from the Nottinghamshire Leaders Group that appointments should be sought from local

Magistrates and Nottinghamshire Probation Trust as a means of bringing in relevant knowledge from those areas. Those Panel Members were reappointed for a further two years at the Panel meeting of 24 June 2013.

9. The Panel subsequently appointed two further Independent Members in October 2013 in order to capture a more diverse range of skills and experience. Following that recruitment process a complaint was made by an unsuccessful candidate about the lack of black, male representation on the Panel. The Panel agreed in December 2013 to consider this when looking at the balanced appointment objective at this annual meeting.
10. The Panel is unusual in having appointed four independent members (as far as is known, no other Panels nationally have appointed more than two Independent Members). It is therefore recommended that no further Independent Members are appointed at this time but that the issue of community representation should continue to be looked at in future considerations of the balanced appointment objective, including when the existing Independent Members' terms of office have expired.

Other Options Considered

11. The Panel could choose to appoint a further Independent Member at this stage. Secretary of State approval would be needed for such an increase.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

12. To enable the Panel to continue to meet the balanced appointment objective to the best of its ability.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the changes to membership be noted.
- 2) That it be agreed that the Panel's revised membership currently meets the balanced appointment objective and therefore no further changes are required at this point.

Background Papers and Published Documents

- 1) Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (published)
- 2) Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Panel's Panel Arrangements (published)
- 3) Minutes of the Police and Crime Panel meetings of 24 June 2013, 30 October 2013 and 16 December 2013.

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