

**INDEPENDENT CO-OPTED MEMBER RECRUITMENT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform the Panel of the result of the recent recruitment process.

**Information and Advice**

2. Each Police and Crime Panel is required to co-opt at least two independent members, initially two independent co-optees were appointed in December 2012 (Suma Harding and Christine Goldstraw OBE.)

3. With Secretary of State agreement, the Panel thereafter co-opted an additional two independent members (Bob Vaughan-Newton and Rizwan Araf) in October 2013 in order to capture a more diverse range of skills and experience.

4. Following consideration of the issue at the Panel meeting on 23 April 2018 the Panel agreed to start the process of recruiting four independent co-optees, with the incumbents being given an opportunity to reapply as part of this process. The end date of the terms of office for the existing co-opted members was extended to May 2019 with new end dates to be agreed once the outcomes of the recruitment process were known.

5. Christine Goldstraw, Suma Harding and Bob-Vaughan-Newton expressed a willingness to apply again as part of the recruitment process. Rizwan Araf indicated that he did not intend to re-apply.

6. The posts were advertised and interviews subsequently took place on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019, with the interview panel comprising Councillor Debbie Mason, Executive Mayor Kate Allsop and Councillor David Ellis. The following candidates were successful:

- Lesley Darby
- Christine Goldstraw
- Suma Harding
- Bob Vaughan-Newton

9. A further report will be brought to a future meeting of the Panel regarding the terms of office of the independent co-opted members.

**Other Options Considered**

The Panel could have decided to reduce the number of independent co-optees to the legal minimum of two. However, the Secretary of State has previously approved the increase to four independent co-optees, on the basis that this helped to meet the

Panel's balanced membership objectives and optimised the Panel's overall range of skills, experience and perspectives.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

To enable Members to consider the Panel's independent co-opted membership.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That Members note the appointment of Lesley Darby, Christine Goldstraw, Suma Harding and Bob Vaughan-Newton as independent members of the Panel.
2. That a report be brought to a future meeting of the Panel regarding the terms of office of the independent members.

### **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, 16 December 2013, 15 June 2015, 24 April 2017 and 23 April 2018.

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

Pete Barker / Keith Ford, Democratic Services, Nottinghamshire County Council  
Tel: 0115 977 2590 / 0115 977 4416      E-mail: [keith.ford@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:keith.ford@nottscc.gov.uk) /  
[peter.barker@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:peter.barker@nottscc.gov.uk)