

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 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

3. The Police and Social Responsibility Act 2011 stipulates that Police and Crime Panels must represent all parts of the relevant area, be as politically balanced as possible and have a membership that has the necessary skills, knowledge and experience.
4. The previously agreed Panel Arrangements for Nottinghamshire state the following regarding co-options of Members:-

36. Changes to the Panel Arrangements can only be made with the unanimous approval of all the local authorities in the Nottinghamshire Force area. The only exception to this requirement is that the Panel can decide to increase the number of co-opted members, subject to Secretary of State approval. Any councillor co-options also require the agreement of all the members of the Panel.

5. Decisions to appoint independent or councillor co-opted members therefore need to be unanimous and require the agreement of all Panel Members in attendance (including the Independent Co-opted Members). If a Panel Member was to abstain from the vote then this could not be deemed to be unanimous.
6. Following a change in political leadership at Ashfield District Council in May 2018, the Panel was required to reconsider its membership in order to meet the balanced appointment objective. Further legal advice was sought as a result and, at the subsequent meeting of 8 October 2018, consideration was given to a proposal to increase the number of elected members by either one or two Members. The Panel was unable to reach a unanimous decision on either proposal. Therefore the membership remained unchanged and not politically balanced.

7. The Panel's elected membership agreed for the remainder of 2018/19 was:-

<u>Council</u>	<u>Number of Members</u>	<u>Political Party of Members</u>
Ashfield District Council	1	Ashfield Independents
Bassetlaw District Council	1	Labour
Broxtowe Borough Council	1	Conservative
Gedling Borough Council	1	Labour
Mansfield District Council	1 (Mayor)	Mansfield Independent Forum
Newark & Sherwood District Council	1	Conservative
Nottingham City Council	2	Labour x 2
Nottinghamshire County Council	1	Conservative
Rushcliffe Borough Council	1	Conservative

8. Following the recent local elections, confirmation of each Council's nominations for 2019/20 have been sought. A number of Council annual meetings are taking place in the week commencing 20 May 2019 and, as such, not all nominations have been received ahead of publication of this agenda. Any later nominations received will be orally reported to the Panel meeting on 3 June.

9. There are two by-elections due to be held after the Panel meeting of 3 June (one for Broxtowe Borough Council and one for Mansfield District Council) and, depending on the outcomes, these could fundamentally alter the proportion of seats which the different parties are entitled to on the Panel. Broxtowe Borough Council will not be nominating to the Panel until after its by-election.

10. It is therefore proposed at this stage that the following nominations from each Council be noted and that a further report be brought to the next Panel meeting of 23 September to consider any actions that may be required to best achieve political balance (subject to Secretary of State approval as required):-

<u>Council</u>	<u>Name of Member</u>	<u>Political Party</u>
Ashfield District Council	Cllr Jason Zadrozny named substitute – Cllr Daniel Williamson	Ashfield Independents
Bassetlaw District Council	Cllr Tony Eaton (replaces Cllr Kevin Greaves, who is now a named substitute)	Labour
Broxtowe Borough Council	To be confirmed after by-election	TBC
Gedling Borough Council	Councillor David Ellis	Labour
Mansfield District Council	Executive Mayor Andy Abrahams (replaces former Executive Mayor Kate Allsop)	Labour
Newark & Sherwood District Council	To be reported to Panel meeting on 3 June 2019.	Conservative
Nottingham City Council	Cllr Linda Woodings Cllr Leslie Ayoola (replaces Cllr	Labour Labour

	Toby Neal) named substitute – Cllr Michael Edwards	
Nottinghamshire County Council	Cllr Francis Purdue Horan	Conservative
Rushcliffe Borough Council	To be reported to Panel meeting on 3 June 2019.	Conservative

11. Following the recruitment process undertaken in January 2019, three of the existing four Independent Co-opted Members (Christine Goldstraw, Suma Harding and Bob Vaughan-Newton) were reappointed from May 2019. One new Independent (Lesley Darby) was also appointed, with today's meeting being the first of Lesley's three year term of office.

Other Options Considered

12. None – possible options to achieve political balance will be submitted to the next meeting of the Panel.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

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

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) That the revised membership of the Panel be noted.
- 2) That a further report be submitted to the next meeting of the Panel, detailing any actions required to best achieve political balance (subject to Secretary of State approval as required).

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) Initial political balance calculations
- 4) Report to Police and Crime Panel meeting of 19 October 2012 and minutes of that meeting (published)
- 5) Reports to Police and Crime Panel of 4 June 2018 and 8 October 2018 and minutes of those meetings.

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