

Devon and Cornwall Police Authority

29 September 2006

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Report of the Chief Executive and Clerk to the Police Authority

Appointment of Independent Members to the Police Authority (PA/06/293)

Recommended

- (i) that a named Member (either a Councillor or a Lay Justice Member) be nominated as the Police Authority representative to serve on the on the selection panel for a two year period;
- (ii) that the Chief Executive, following consultation with the Vice-Chairman, be given delegated authority to appoint an Interview Panel comprising 5 members;
- (iii) that the Interview Panel be given delegated Authority to appoint 4 Independent members to the Authority with effect from 1 April 2007;

Introduction

1. The final draft of the Home Office / Association of Police Authority Guidance on the recruitment and selection of Independent Members of the Authority has just been received.
2. The Authority has 6 Independent Members, the term of office of 4 independent members expires on 31 March 2007.
3. The Authority needs to put the appropriate measures in place to ensure that a smooth recruitment and appointment process takes place.

Background Information

4. . The main steps in the recruitment process are are:
 - A Selection Panel comprising 3 members is convened. One current Authority Member - either a Councillor or Lay Justice Member; One person appointed by the Home Secretary; One person who is agreed by the other two members of the selection panel (but cannot be a member of the Authority);
 - The Selection Panel will compile the longlist of candidates whose details will be sent to the Home Office comprising four times the number of people as appointments to be made.
 - An Interview Panel comprising Councillor and Lay Justice Members of the Authority interviews the candidates shortlisted by the Home Office and agrees the recommended candidates.
5. The recommendations given at the beginning of this report are intended to address the main provisions of the draft guidance and enable the authority to implement a robust recruitment and appointment process for lay justice members of the Authority.

Background papers

- Final draft guidance from the Home Office / Association of Police Authorities on the recruitment of independent members of a Police Authority

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