

Council Report

Ward(s) affected: n/a

Report of Joint Strategic Director: Transformation and Governance

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Appointment of Council Representative to the Surrey Police and Crime Panel: 2022-23

Executive Summary

The Council, at its extraordinary meeting on 9 June 2022, appointed Councillor Julia McShane as its representative to serve on the Surrey Police and Crime Panel until May 2023.

On 23 November 2022, Councillor McShane gave notice in writing that she wished to stand down from this appointment, which means that the Council will need to appoint a councillor to represent the Council on the Panel until May 2023.

Recommendation to Council:

That, having regard to the person specification referred to in Appendix 1 to this report, the Council appoints a councillor representative to the Surrey Police and Crime Panel for a term of office expiring in May 2023.

Reason for Recommendation:

To enable the Council to comply with the requirements of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report asks the Council to appoint a councillor to represent the Council on the Surrey Police and Crime Panel for the remainder of the 2022-23 municipal year.

2. Surrey Police and Crime Panel

- 2.1 The role of the Surrey Police and Crime Panel is to provide a check and balance against the performance of Surrey's Police and Crime Commissioner by scrutinising their actions and decisions in the exercise of their functions. The Panel supports and challenges the Commissioner, acting as a critical friend.
- 2.2 The Panel's main functions are as follows:

- Review the draft police and crime plan, or draft variation, given to the panel by the Commissioner and make a report or recommendations on the draft plan or variation to the Commissioner
 - Review the Commissioner's annual report and make a report or recommendations on the report to the Commissioner
 - Review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Commissioner in connection with the discharge of the Commissioner's functions.
 - Publish any report and recommendations made to the Commissioner
 - Review certain senior appointments made by the Commissioner
 - Review chief constable appointments, with the power to veto the appointment with a two thirds majority vote.
 - Review and report on the Commissioner's proposals to remove a chief constable.
 - Review the Commissioner level of precept, with the power to veto the precept with a two thirds majority vote
 - Suspend the Commissioner on their being charged with certain criminal offences.
 - Appoint an acting Commissioner if necessary.
 - Initial handling and informal resolution of complaints about the conduct of the Commissioner/Deputy Commissioner
- 2.3 The Council, at its Selection Meeting in May 2019, following the Borough Council elections appointed Councillor Fiona White as its representative to serve on the Surrey Police and Crime Panel for a four-year term ending in May 2023. However, on 23 May 2022, Councillor White stood down from this appointment, and the Council at its extraordinary meeting on 9 June 2022 agreed to appoint Councillor Julia McShane to represent the Council on the Panel until May 2023.
- 2.4 On 23 November 2022, Councillor McShane gave notice of her wish to stand down from this appointment. The Council is now invited to consider making a further appointment to the Police and Crime Panel for the remainder of the current municipal year.
- 2.5 It is important that, in making this appointment, the Council considers the skills, knowledge and experience required to discharge the functions of the Panel. A person specification, outlining the key competencies and skills required is set out in **Appendix 1** to this report and should be taken into account when the Council makes an appointment to the Panel for the remainder of the 2022-23 municipal year. All councillors were notified of the vacancy on 23 November and nominations were invited for consideration at this meeting.
- 2.6 The next meeting of the Panel (the Budget Meeting) is on Friday 3 February 2023 at 10.30 am at Woodhatch Place, Reigate. The next scheduled meeting following the Budget Meeting will take place on Tuesday 18 April 2023 at 10.30 am.

3. Legal implications

- 3.1 The appointment of police and crime panels and specifically, provision for relevant local authorities within a police area to nominate persons to be members of a police and crime panel is set out in Part 2 of Schedule 6 to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.
- 3.2 The panel is, in effect, a joint committee of all authorities in the police area made up of both appointed and co-opted members. In a police area with more than 10 authorities, appointed members will be equal in number to the number of local authorities in the area, with one from each authority. Therefore, in Surrey, this equates to 12 appointed

members. The Constitution of the Surrey Police and Crime Panel can be viewed via the following link: [Surrey Police and Crime Panel Constitution](#).

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5. Human resource Implications

5.1 There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

6. Background Papers

None

7. Appendices

Appendix 1: Person Specification for Police & Crime Panel Member