

Report to the Thames Valley Police & Crime Panel

Title: Confirmation Hearing

Date: 16 December 2016

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Panel



Background

1. The Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act) requires that Police & Crime Panels hold confirmation hearings for certain key appointments to be made by the Police & Crime Commissioner. These requirements are detailed within two Schedules of the Act:
 - **Appointments under Schedule 1**
The appointment of a PCC's chief executive, chief finance officer and any deputy Police & Crime Commissioners
 - **Appointments under Schedule 8**
The appointment of a Chief Constable
2. The confirmation hearing of 16th December is for a proposed appointment, under Schedule 1 of the Act, to the role of deputy Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley.

Confirmation Hearing for the Proposed Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner

3. It should be noted that the Act prevents any of the following from being appointed a deputy Police & Crime Commissioner:
 - (a) a person who has not attained the age of 18 on the day of the appointment;
 - (b) a person who is subject to a relevant disqualification;¹
 - (c) a Member of the House of Commons;
 - (d) a member of the European Parliament;
 - (e) a member of the National Assembly for Wales;

¹ A person is subject to a relevant disqualification if the person is disqualified from being elected as, or being, a police and crime commissioner under—

(a) section 65(1) (police officers, police-related employment etc), other than paragraph (e)(ii); or (b) section 66(1), (3)(a)(iii) or (iv), (3)(c) or (3)(d) (citizenship, bankruptcy, criminal convictions & corrupt or illegal election practices).

- (f) a member of the Scottish Parliament;
- (g) a member of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

4. The Police & Crime Commissioner must provide the Panel with the following information, which is included at Appendix A:

- (a) the name of the person whom the Commissioner is proposing to appoint;
- (b) the criteria used to assess the suitability of the candidate for the appointment;
- (c) why the candidate satisfies those criteria; and
- (d) the terms and conditions on which the candidate is to be appointed.

The Police & Crime Panel's Role

5. Under the terms of the Act, the Panel is required to:

- i. Review the proposed senior appointment
- ii. Make a report to the Commissioner on the proposed senior appointment
- iii. Include within the report a recommendation to the Police & Crime Commissioner as to whether or not the candidate should be appointed
- iv. The Panel must publish its report in a manner of its own determination

6. The Act allows the Police & Crime Commissioner the right to accept or reject the Panel's recommendation; however, he must inform the Panel of his decision.

7. The Panel will need to question the Commissioner on why he has selected the candidate, arrive at a conclusion on the proposed candidate and then issue and publish a report on the proposed senior appointment to the Commissioner with a recommendation as to whether or not the candidate should be appointed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That the Panel consider the information provided by the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley (see Appendix A) on the proposed deputy Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley**
- 2. That, following questioning, the Panel agree a recommendation to the Commissioner on whether or not to appoint the proposed deputy Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley**
- 3. That the Panel delegates to the Panel Scrutiny Officer, in consultation with the Panel Chairman, the development and submission of the report to the Commissioner containing the Panel's recommendation on whether or not to appoint the proposed deputy Police & Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley.**