

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

At a Meeting of **Police and Crime Panel** held in **Committee Room 2, County Hall, Durham** on **Friday 4 November 2022** at **11.00 am**

Present:

Councillor B Jones (Chair)

Durham County Council:

Councillors L Hovvels, D Nicholls, J Nicholson (Vice-Chair), A Savory and M Simmons

Darlington Borough Council:

Councillor L McCollom

Independent Co-opted Members:

Mr N Hallam and Mr R Rodiss

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor R Potts and M Renton.

2 Substitute Members

There were no Substitute Members.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4 Confirmation Hearing - Proposed Appointment of Chief of Staff for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Panel considered a report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Clerk to the Panel. The report provided information on the process to be undertaken to hold a confirmation hearing for the post of Chief of Staff for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and also considered a report from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for the proposed candidate for the post of Chief of Staff for the OPCC (for copy see file of minutes).

The Panel noted that the Clerk to the Panel had received formal notification from the PCC of the proposed appointment of Ms Andrea Petty to the role of Chief of Staff for the OPCC and that the procedure for the confirmation hearing as set out at Appendix 3 to the report.

The Chief Finance Officer noted that the position had been publicly advertised, with 15 applicants having their applications assessed against the job description and personal statement by the PCC, Deputy PCC and himself. He noted that from those 15, five candidates were shortlisted for interview, with all applicants given the same question set and scored accordingly. He added that, following that process, the position was offered to Ms A Petty, with arrangements then being made for the Confirmation Hearing for the Panel.

The Panel then questioned Ms A Petty around the following issues:

- What main areas of expertise she had which would enable her to undertake the role of Chief of Staff effectively;
- Who she regarded as key stakeholders that she would work with within the role of Chief of Staff for the OPCC;
- Examples of how she had worked with a range of organisations, partnerships and agencies;
- How she would ensure a constructive relationship between the PCC and Panel was maintained at all times; and
- An example of when her personal independence had been put to the test and how she had dealt with the situation.

Ms A Petty provided the Panel with responses to the questions asked. The Panel thanked Ms A Petty and the PCC for their attendance and informed them they would be notified of the Panel's decision in due course.

5 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved:

That under Section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following discussion on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

6 Confirmation Hearing - Proposed Appointment of Chief of Staff for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

The Panel discussed the PCC's recommendation to appoint Ms A Petty as Chief of Staff for the OPCC. Upon a vote being taken it was:

Resolved:

That the Panel endorse the appointment of Ms A Petty to the post of Chief of Staff for the Durham OPCC in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.