

SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel
2.	Date:	16th October 2015
3.	Title:	Recruitment of Co-optee

4. Summary

It is a statutory requirement for the Police and Crime Panel to have a minimum of two independent co-opted members. With the resignation of one of the co-optees in January of 2015 it was necessary to start the recruitment process for a replacement, to achieve a full complement of panel members.

This report is to seek approval to the appointment of the successful candidate to the position of independent co-optee

5. Recommendations

That the Panel:

- Agrees to appoint the recommended candidate to the Panel as an independent co-opted member for a term of four years (in line with the draft Panel Arrangements). Start 16th October 2015 end of term September 2019.

6. Proposals and details

A vacancy arose after the resignation in January 2015 of a Kash Walyatt a co-opted member of the Panel (J28 of 31/01/2015)

The Panel Arrangements provide for the consideration of applications and interviewing of candidates to be undertaken by the Chair and Vice Chair.

The position of Independent Co-optee is a voluntary role and as part of the Panel is responsible for scrutinising the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The term of office is for four years with the requirement to attend at least 6 meetings per year.

The recruitment process was started in February 2015 with a closing date of 31st March 2015 for applications. From this initial advertisement, 6 applications were received.

Minute J36 of 19th March 2015 meeting, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman it was proposed to defer the filling of the vacancy until after the May elections, to enable a clearer picture of the skills-set for such a candidate to be identified. It was also suggested that Alan Carter, an Independent Co-optee on the Panel, be included in the recruitment panel.

A second round of recruitment was started in August 2015 with a closing date for applications on 1st September 2015. The original applicants from the first round were all notified and informed that if they were still interested in the position, no further application would be required from them and their original application would be considered after the 1st September will all new applications.

In this second stage a further 10 applications were received resulting in 16 applications being considered overall, from which 4 applicants were shortlisted for interview.

The interviews took place in September, the interview panel being supported by a representative from Human Resources, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council.

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires that the Panel, when co-opting members, must ensure that the co-opted members (when taken with the appointed members) have the skills, knowledge and experience necessary for the Panel to discharge its functions effectively. The majority of candidates were strong contenders for the position, but it was felt that the best candidate was Stephen Chufungleung, who brought the most appropriate mix of skills and abilities to complement those of the existing Panel members, and he is therefore recommended for co-option:

Stephen Chufungleung – newly appointed Chief Executive of Age UK Sheffield.
Mr Chufungleung will bring a vast range of experience from his previous employment as Head of Strategy & Engagement at South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

along with his service at Sheffield Wednesday Football Club as Communications Manager.

7. Finance

There are no immediate financial implications of this report.

8. Risks and Uncertainties

It is important to meet the balanced appointment objective for the police and crime panel and it is felt that the recommended candidate will help the panel to achieve the right balance of skills and experience

9. Background Papers and Consultation

10. Contact

Christine Majer,
Scrutiny Officer
Legal and Democratic Services
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Christine.majer@rotherham.gov.uk Tele 01709 822738