



Leicester  
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND POLICE AND CRIME PANEL  
CONFIRMATION HEARING

Held: MONDAY, 6 MARCH 2023 at 11:30 am at City Hall, Charles Street, Leicester

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Taylor (Chair)  
Councillor Whelband (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Clair  
Councillor Clarke  
Councillor Cutkelvin  
Councillor Graham  
Councillor Harper-Davies  
Councillor March  
Councillor Mullaney  
Councillor Phillimore  
Councillor Woodman

In Attendance:

Mr Rupert Matthews – Police and Crime Commissioner  
Mrs Rani Mahal – Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner  
Ms Kira Hughes – preferred candidate

Also Present:

Mr Kamal Adatia – Monitoring Officer  
Ms Joanne Allen – Resourcing Manager (HR)  
Mrs Anita James – Senior Democratic Support Officer

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**26. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed those present and explained the procedure for the meeting.

**27. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Powell, Councillor Loydall, Parisha Chavda and Salma Manzoor.

## **28. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were asked to declare any pecuniary or other interests they may have in the business to be discussed.

There were no such declarations.

## **29. CONFIRMATION HEARING FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE ROLE OF INTERIM CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

Following notification by the Police and Crime Commissioner of his intention to appoint a preferred candidate Ms Kira Hughes to the role of Interim Chief Finance Officer the Panel held a Confirmation Hearing in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

The Panel received a report setting out the powers of the Panel and the process to be followed in the Confirmation Hearing.

The Panel noted the information provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner relating to the appointment of the interim Chief Finance Officer which included:

- The name of the preferred candidate, her experience and background;
- A statement from the Commissioner stating why the preferred candidate met the criteria of the role;
- A job description;
- Candidates CV (exempt)

The Police and Crime Commissioner addressed the Panel, providing background to this appointment and an insight into the consideration given to alternative options and scenarios around the Chief Finance Officer role and an overview of the process undertaken to select his preferred candidate.

The Police and Crime Commissioner commended Ms Kira Hughes to the Panel.

The Panel asked the Police and Crime Commissioner a series of questions, this included seeking assurance as to the fairness and transparency of the approach taken to the appointment.

The Panel then asked wide ranging questions of the candidate related to her professional competence and personal independence, the answers to which enabled Members to evaluate her suitability for the role. At the end of the questioning the Chair thanked the candidate and provided an opportunity to clarify any responses given.

The Chair announced that the Panel's resolution would be notified to the Police and Crime Commissioner and confirmed in writing as specified by relevant legislation.

The Chair then asked all, but Members of the Panel and the Panel's support officers to withdraw from the meeting.

RESOLVED:

That the press and members of the public be excluded from the meeting during the Panel's deliberations on the grounds their presence would likely involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 1 and 3 of Schedule 12A of Part 1 of the Local Government Act 1972.

### **30. PRIVATE SESSION**

The Panel held exempt discussion which examined the evidence provided in the Confirmation Hearing session.

On the basis of the information provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner, the candidates full responses to robust and varied questioning and the discussions held during deliberations the Panel were satisfied that the criteria of s113 Local Government Finance Act 1988 were met and unanimously agreed to support the recommendation to appoint.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed appointment of the candidate Kira Hughes be supported.

### **31. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.57am



# Minute Item 30

## Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Police and Crime Panel.

### Confirmation Hearing held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 - to consider the preferred candidate for the role of Interim Chief Finance Officer.

### Record of Recommendation of the Panel to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Police and Crime Panel held a confirmation hearing on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 11.30am at City Hall, Leicester to consider the appointment of a preferred candidate, Kira Hughes, to the role of Interim Chief Finance Officer.

The Panel considered Kira Hughes' candidacy in line with the relevant law (The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011) and the Local Government Finance Act 1988 and the recommended Local Government Association Guidance, and followed the process below:

- a. The candidate was welcomed to the meeting.
- b. The Police and Crime Commissioner presented his preferred candidate to the Panel and proposed the appointment.
- c. The Panel asked questions of the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the appointment process.
- c. The Panel asked questions of the candidate focused on her professional competence and personal independence, and during the course of questioning the candidate presented her understanding of the role.
- e. The candidate was given the opportunity to clarify any answers given during the hearing and to ask questions of the Panel about the next stage of the process.

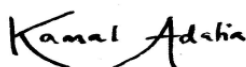
#### **Recommendation and publication:**

In line with Schedule 1 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, and being satisfied that the criteria of s113 Local Government Finance Act 1988 are met, the Monitoring Officer advises the Police and Crime Commissioner of the recommendation of the Panel:

#### **That the proposed appointment of the candidate, Kira Hughes, be supported.**

The Panel will normally publish its decision and report five working days after the confirmation hearing has taken place. However, you may request the Chair, through the panel secretariat, to bring forward or delay publication of the Panel decision.

Signed



Kamal Adatia

Monitoring Officer

On behalf of the Chair of the Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Police and Crime Panel.

8 March 2023

