



Leicester
City Council

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

Held: MONDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2023 at 12:15 pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Taylor (Chair)
Councillor Agath
Councillor Blackshaw
Councillor Cox
Councillor Joannou
Councillor Phillimore
Councillor Wise
Councillor Woodiwiss

In Attendance:

Mr Rupert Matthews – Police and Crime Commissioner
Mrs Rani Mahal – Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
Ms Kira Hughes – preferred candidate
Ms Claire Trewartha – Chief Executive Officer

Also Present:

Ms Petty Patel – Head of Law
Ms Louise Pinnock – HR Team Manager
Mr Jacob Mann – Senior Democratic Services Officer

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Mullaney, Councillor Loydall, Councillor Russell, Councillor Woodman and Salma Manzoor.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

There were no such declarations.

3. CONFIRMATION HEARING FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE ROLE OF CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Following notification from the Police and Crime Commissioner of his intention to appoint a preferred candidate, Kira Hughes to the role of 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 Chief Finance Officer which included:

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

The Police and Crime Commissioner addressed the panel and gave an overview of the recruitment process undertaken to select his preferred candidate and stating why the preferred candidate met the criteria for the role.

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

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

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Panel held exempt discussions and examined the evidence provided in the Confirmation Hearing session.

The Panel assessed the candidate's ability based upon her suitability to undertake the role.

Members noted the candidate's wealth of experience and proficiency she would bring to this role.

Members felt the candidate was very credible and met the standards of professional competence and personal independence necessary to undertake the role in a confident manner.

On the basis of the information provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner, the candidate's responses to robust and varied questioning during deliberations the Panel supported the proposed appointment.

RESOLVED:

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

5. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 12.50pm.