




DECISION PAPER

DECISION: 2021/14	DATE: 30 SEPTEMBER 2021
TITLE: APPOINTMENT OF LEGALLY QUALIFIED CHAIRS (LQC)	
REPORT BY: JANE PEARSON, STANDARDS & COMPLIANCE POLICY OFFICER	
Executive Summary This report sets out the recruitment of Legally Qualified Chairs (LQCs) for the North West Region of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs)	
Recommendation The Police and Crime Commissioner is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• approve the appointment of the 10 LQCs for the North West region• note that the day-to-day maintenance of the list of nominations will be undertaken by the Merseyside Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).	
Signature	
Police and Crime Commissioner	
Date	30/9/21

PART I

1. Background and Advice

- 1.1 The North West regional PCC Chief Executive's at a meeting on the 11th March 2021, agreed to undertake a process to recruit new Legally Qualified Chairs (LQC) to ensure it has a mix of existing and new LQC's.
- 1.2 In addition to the eight existing Legally Qualified Chairs, it was anticipated that the appointment of a further 10 LQCs would meet the needs of the region.
- 1.3 The appointment process was administered by the Lancashire OPCC on behalf of the five OPCCs of the North West Region.
- 1.4 Applications from all underrepresented groups were encouraged and support was available throughout the recruitment process for all applicants.
- 1.5 The selection Panel, comprising of representatives from Lancashire, Cumbria and Cheshire OPCCs, were delighted to receive a large number of applications of a high calibre.
- 1.6 A rigorous selection process was undertaken, whereby 41 applicants were considered during the shortlisting procedure on the 14 June 2021, with 18 applicants being invited for interview during the period 21st – 30th June 2021.
- 1.7 It is therefore reported that the 10 applicants listed in **Appendix A** were appointable and should be confirmed as Legally Qualified Chairs for the North West Region for a period of 4 years from the 1st January 2022. For completeness, the existing 8 LQCs are also set out in Appendix A.
- 1.8 The list of LQC's will be maintained by Merseyside OPCC for the purposes of compliance with Regulation 28 (4) (a) of the Police (Conduct) Regulations 2020.
- 1.9 It is proposed that a future appointment process be organised and held in time for the expiry of those four-year terms. This will need to take into account the tenure of the current list of Legally Qualified Chairs.
- 1.10 References have been collated in relation to the successful applicants. A Memorandum of Understanding and the fee arrangements are currently being reviewed and will be presented to a future meeting of the NW Chief Executives.
- 1.11 LQCs appointed to the list will be required to undergo training before they undertake their role. Training will be co-ordinated regionally with input from the National Association of Legally Qualified Chairs. (NALQC).

2. Links to the Police and Crime Plan

The appointment of LQCs is an important function of the PCC to ensure the police misconduct process is overseen and implemented thoroughly and fairly.

3. Consultations

This process was undertaken in conjunction with the other NW region (Manchester, Merseyside, Cumbria and Cheshire OPCCs).

4. Implications:

a. Legal

The appointment of LQCs fulfils the PCCs obligations under the Police Conduct Regulations 2020. Fees are contained within existing budgets.

b. Financial

A Memorandum of Understanding will be entered to by each LQC which will set out the current fee arrangements

c. Equality Impact Assessment

None.

d. Data Protection Impact Assessment

None.

5 Risk Management

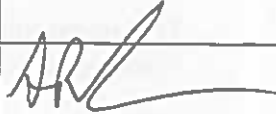
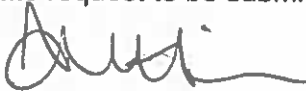
The cost associated with indemnifying LQCs in carrying out their role will be addressed under a separate decision paper.

6. Background Papers

None.

7. Public access to information

Information in this form is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and other legislation. Part 1 of this form will be made available on the PCC website within 3 working days of approval. Any facts/advice/recommendations that should not be made available on request should not be included in Part 1 but instead on the separate Part 2 form.

Officer declaration	Date
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS – As above	
FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS – As above	30/9/21 
EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS – As above	
CONSULTATION – As above	
<p>Director to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (Monitoring Officer)</p> <p>I have been informed about the proposal and confirm that financial, legal and equalities advice has been taken into account in the preparation of this report. I am satisfied that this is an appropriate request to be submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire.</p> <p>Signature  Date 30-9-21.</p>	