



Title of Report:	APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS TO POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS (PCSPS)
Committee Report Submitted To:	Council
Date of Meeting:	29 June 2023
For Decision or For Information	For Decision

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Healthy and Engaged Communities
Outcome	4.4 Citizens and communities will be centrally involved in Council's planning and decision making processes. 4.5 Citizens will understand risks to their safety and are supported to address risk taking behaviours or the life skills required to maintain their personal or family's safety
Lead Officer	Head of Community & Culture PCSP Manager

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	nil
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	
Staffing Costs	n/a

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	YES/NO
Legal Opinion Obtained	YES/NO

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

To provide members with information regarding the appointment process for independent members of the Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) and to nominate a panel comprising of up to four political members of the PCSP to carry out both the shortlisting and interview processes to appoint said independent members to the partnership.

2.0 Background

Following the local elections of 2023, the NI Policing Board (NIPB) will commence a process to appoint Independent Members to the PCSPs in 2024, to be in place by April of that year.

The appointment process consists of three stages which is provided for in Schedule 1 of the Justice Act (NI) 2011 and follows guidance outlined in the Code of Practice for the Appointment of Independent Members published by the Department of Justice.

Stage one is currently underway and includes pre-launch publicity and engagement activity and the application process, carried out NIPB.

Stage two of the process will involve shortlisting and interviewing, conducted by the Council, with a panel consisting of three or four elected representatives (who have been nominated to sit on the PCSP), and an independent panel member contracted and provided by the Board. This process will run from September to November 2023. The third and final stage of the process is due to commence in Jan/Feb 2024 when Policing Board Member panels will convene to appoint Independent Members to the 11 PCSPs.

NIPB will contract the services of a Human Resources (HR) Service Provider to provide support to Councils for Stage 2, who will work closely with each Council HR department to ensure a timely and efficient shortlisting and interview stage.

In advance of the commencement of Stage 2 the Board will provide appointment panel training and specific training for panel Chairs. Council HR personnel will also be invited to attend this training which will take place on a regional basis during late August and September 2023.

The current Council representatives appointed to the PCSP are as follows:

Councillor Steven Callaghan (DUP)
Councillor Leanne Peacock (SF)
Alderman Mark Fielding (DUP)
Councillor Oliver McMullan (SF)
Councillor Lee Kane (AP)
Councillor Philip Anderson (DUP)
Councillor Sandra Hunter (UUP)
Councillor Ciaran Archibald (SF)
Councillor Ivor Wallace (DUP)
Councillor Brenda Chivers (SF)

3.0 Proposals

In order to progress Stage 2 of the process, Council have been asked to nominate a panel comprising of up to four political members of the PCSP, one of which should be identified and be content to assume the role of panel Chair. The nominees will be required to carry out both the shortlisting and interview processes in this stage.

In addition, Council have also been asked to nominate up to two reserve panel members who, where possible, should also be PCSP political members to facilitate a replacement if required. In nominating panel members, Council have been asked to consider balance in relation to community background and gender.

5.0 Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to Council to nominate a panel comprising of up to four political members of the PCSP, (one of which should be identified and be content to assume the role of panel Chair) to carry out both the shortlisting and interview processes for the appointment of independent members to PCSP, effective from April 2024.

That Council also nominate up to two reserve panel members who, where possible, should also be PCSP political members to facilitate a replacement if required.

That in nominating panel members, Council consider balance in relation to community background and gender as per the request from the Northern Ireland Policing Board.