

CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF SPECIALLY CONVENED MEETING

Date and time: Wednesday 17th September 2008 at 17.00 hours

Location: Hemingford Grey House, Hemingford Grey

Present:

Members: Mrs Judy Broadway (Chairman)
Mr Nick Clarke
Mrs Olive Main
Ms Ruth Rogers
Mr Michael Williamson

Executive Team: Mr Philip Peaston, Chief Executive (Clerk to the meeting)

1. Decision Making

With reference to The Police Authority Regulations 2008 (especially Regulation 9) the Authority received from the Selection Panel a list of ten names including three magistrates for the five vacancies (including one which must be filled by a magistrate) arising on the Authority with effect from 1st October 2008.

The Authority considered the ten candidates and discussed the merits of each, noting the assessments by the Selection Panel through two rounds of interviewing, each candidate's application papers, and their references.

The Authority considered the ten candidates as a whole, i.e. it considered the possibility of appointing more than one magistrate if the merits of those candidates were better than the non magistrate applicants.

In discussing the prospective reappointment of an existing magistrate member who had served on the Authority for many years, the Authority was concerned not to breach Nolan¹ principles, specifically the extrapolation from the seven principles and the general thrust of the report that membership on public authorities should not perpetuate, but instead should allow for fresh membership and fresh perspectives.

Under advice from the Chief Executive, the Authority noted the Police Authority Regulations 2008, Clause 20 in that independent members could not be appointed to serve for more than two [four year] terms without approval from the Secretary of State, but that the joint guidance from the APA and the Home Office "Selection and Appointment of independent members of police authorities in England and Wales" (April 2008) made clear (Paragraph 6.3) that "for the 2008 process, previous membership as a "lay justice member does not count towards these two terms".

¹ the Committee on Standards in Public Life (the Nolan Committee) First Report on Standards in Public Life. July 1995.

Consequently, it was agreed that such appointment could proceed and on the basis of merit, the Authority made the following unanimous appointment decisions:

Mr Ansar Ali
Mr Benjamyn Damazer (magistrate)
Ms Ruth Joyce
Ms Nicola Williams
Mrs Jayne Wright

The Authority instructed the Chief Executive to make the arrangements to notify all ten candidates of their decision and to proceed with the induction of the five appointees.

As the business of the meeting had been concluded, the meeting was closed.

RESOLVED:

- (i) *That Mr Ansar Ali, Mr Benjamyn Damazer (magistrate), Ms Ruth Joyce, Ms Nicola Williams and Mrs Jayne Wright, be appointed as Independent Members to the Cambridgeshire Police Authority with effect from 1st October 2008.*
- (ii) *For the Chief Executive to notify all ten candidates of the Authority's decision and to proceed with the induction of the five appointees as noted above.*

3. Date of the next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting of the full Police Authority would be held on Tuesday 30th September 2008 at 4.00 pm, at Police Headquarters, Huntingdon.

CHAIRMAN