



RECOMMENDATION REPORT

DECISION: 2023/23	DATE:
TITLE: THE JOINT INDEPENDENT ETHICS COMMITTEE	
AUTHOR: CAROL BENTON, GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER	
SPONSOR: IAN DICKINSON, HEAD OF GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY	
Executive Summary This report sets out the recruitment of members to the newly established Joint Independent Ethics Committee	
Recommendation The Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• approve the amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Joint Independent Ethics Committee• approve the appointment of the 10 members as set out in the report now presented to the Joint Independent Ethics Committee.	

PART I

1. Background and Advice

- 1.1. The Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable will recall that at the Accountability Board in May 2023, they agreed to establish a new Joint Independent Ethics Committee comprising of a chair and six members jointly appointed by the PCC and the Chief Constable, but who are independent of the PCC and Chief Constable.
- 1.2. The Chair and Members of the Committee would be recruited through open competition, in conjunction with the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable or their representatives, to ensure that the Committee has all the necessary skills and experience to fulfil its terms of reference, in accordance with the job description.
- 1.3. The selection Panel, comprising of representatives from Lancashire Constabulary and the OPCC, were delighted to receive a large number of applications of a high calibre from ethical representatives from academia, the legal profession, health or clinical sectors, faith or secular representatives, social/behavioural science experts, the media, minority ethnic communities or from other protected characteristic groups.
- 1.4. A rigorous selection process was undertaken, whereby 13 applicants were invited for interview.
- 1.5. Due to the high calibre of applications and to build resilience into the membership it is proposed that the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable increase the membership of the Committee as set out in the Terms of Reference to comprise of 10 suitably qualified members.
- 1.6. If this proposal is acceptable, it is proposed that the 10 applicants listed in **Appendix A** should be confirmed as members of the Independent Ethics Committee for an initial period of 4 years from the 1st October 2023.
- 1.7. Expressions of interest will be sought from the membership for the role of chair. Should more than one member express an interest then a competitive process will be undertaken.
- 1.8. Those appointed to the Committee will be required to undergo vetting and training before they undertake their role. Training will include input from the College of Policing.

2. Links to the Police and Crime Plan

2.1. The Joint Independent Ethics Committee provides a mechanism to enable the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable to receive independent and timely opinion on the moral and ethical considerations they face in delivering the Police and Crime Plan.

3. Consultations

N/A

4. Implications:

a. Legal

None to consider.

b. Financial

The cost of servicing the Committee will be met from within the OPCC budget.

c. Equality Assessment

None to consider

d. Data Protection Assessment

There are no direct Data protection implications in the making of this decision

5 Risk Management

None

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.

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