

SURREY POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

3 February 2025

APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED INDEPENDENT MEMBER

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this paper is to set out the process that has been followed to select a co-opted independent member onto the Surrey Police and Crime Panel and to recommend appointment to the position.

Background

2. Two compulsory non-political independent members, who have full voting rights, are required to form part of the Police and Crime Panel under Schedule 6 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. The co-opted independent members must not be members of local authorities covered by the Surrey Police area. In co-opting an independent member, the Act requires that the Panel must secure that (as far as reasonably practicable) the appointed and co-opted member of the Panel has the skills, knowledge and experience necessary for the Panel to discharge its functions effectively.
3. A thorough, fair and transparent recruitment exercise was undertaken. A cross-party selection panel comprising of the Panel's Chairman, Vice-Chairman and one additional Panel member met on Thursday 24th October 2024 to interview applicants. The interview panel agreed that one candidate demonstrated that she met the Panel's requirements well and that she had a range of skills and experience of value to the Panel in the discharge of its functions. The interview selection panel agreed to recommend the individual to the PCP for appointment.
4. The recommended candidate has provisionally accepted the offer and awaits the full Panel's approval of her appointment.

Recommendations

1. That Mrs Samantha Sheriff is appointed to one of the two vacant roles of co-opted independent member on the Surrey Police and Crime Panel for a four-year term.

Next Steps

None.

Report Contact Details:

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Sources / Background paper:

Surrey Police and Crime Panel - Constitution (version 2021)

[Police, fire and crime panels: independent member recruitment guidance - GOV.UK
\(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/police-fire-and-crime-panels-independent-member-recruitment-guidance)