

Wednesday 24 June 2015

Councillor Joe Orson Chair of the Police and Crime Panel County Hall Glenfield Leicester LE3 8RA

Dear Joe,

Please accept my very sincere apologies for being unable to attend today's meeting of the Police and Crime Panel.

As you are aware, I have for some months been suffering from very severe back pain. Despite having seen several different consultants and undergone medical procedures, I remain in constant pain.

Whilst I have sought to fulfil my duties to the best of my ability, the pain I am experiencing has become increasingly compromising to the point that I am unable to drive, or to stand or sit for any period of time.

I have now reached the point that I do not feel able to fulfil my role in the way that you, the Force, or, most importantly, the public would expect, and in order to address my on-going health issues and, I hope, to make a full and speedy recovery, I feel compelled to take a period of extended absence due to incapacitating ill-health.

Having sought legal advice, the provisions of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2012 cater for this eventuality, and invite you as a Panel to appoint an Acting Police and Crime Commissioner to undertake all the statutory responsibilities of the role during my absence. Furthermore, the Act requires that the individual chosen for this role must be a member of my staff and that the Panel should consider any recommendation I may make about the identity of that individual.

I would wish, for the duration of my absence, that my Chief Executive Officer Paul Stock is appointed by you to undertake the role of Acting Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

I have spoken to Paul, and to my senior management team, and Paul is willing to undertake this role. If approved by the Panel, Paul's team will absorb his monitoring responsibilities.

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Needless to say, Simon Cole and his Chief Officer team are aware of my decision and will be supportive of the new arrangements to achieve the shared goal of crime reduction and community safety.

I bitterly regret that my ill-health requires me to take this decision, and it is one that I take only after considerable soul-searching. My overriding concern is that a Police and Crime Commissioner should undertake the entirety of his or her responsibilities on behalf of the public they serve, and I must accept that my health currently prevents me from so doing.

I very much hope that a period away from work will allow me access to the necessary medical interventions and to return to my role as swiftly as possible.

With my warmest wishes,

live Leade

Sir Clive Loader Police and Crime Commissioner