

**LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND POLICE AND  
CRIME PANEL**

**ALLOWANCES FOR INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE PANEL**

**REPORT OF THE COUNTY SOLICITOR**

**Purpose**

1. The purpose of this report is to enable the Panel to consider whether or not allowances should be paid to the two co-opted members of the Panel who are independent of the local authorities which constitute the Panel.

**Constitutional Arrangements**

2. The legislation requires that Panel arrangements be agreed which may include provision for the payment of allowances.
3. The Panel arrangements agreed by the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Panel state:-

“Payment of expenses and allowances, if applicable, for elected members will be a matter for the nominating authority. A scheme of expenses and allowances for the two independent co-opted members will be established by the Panel and administered by the host authority.”

4. Provision is made within the Home Office grant available for the operation of the Panel for payment of expenses and allowances for Panel members.

**Discussion**

5. The information provided to candidates applying to become independent members of the Panel did not provide any guarantee to the successful candidates that any allowance would be paid but indicated that the Panel consider this issue.
6. Experience to date has been that the suggestion originally made by the Home Office prior to the establishment of the Panels that it would be likely they would not need to meet more than four times a year was erroneous; members of the Panel considered that a minimum of six times a year was more realistic and since its establishment in November 2012, this Panel has met on four occasions within six months. It was always understood that it was likely that the Panel would have to undertake a considerable workload from the outset with the establishment of new constitutional arrangements and the first Police and Crime Plan. However, it is likely that given the financial situation and the understanding that revisions will be made to the Plan and the Police and

Crime Commissioner's budget, further meetings will be needed in late summer and/or early autumn. Preparation for meetings may involve considering a substantial volume of documentation, particularly in regard to the Police and Crime Plan.

7. If the Panel is minded to consider a payment of an allowance for independent members, it may be appropriate to seek the views of the Leicestershire County Council Independent Remuneration Panel.

### **Recommendation**

8. The Panel is asked to consider whether an allowance should be payable to the independent co-opted members of the Panel.

### **Officer to contact**

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